

A message from the new Master

Mr Nick Paul

It was a great honour to be installed as your Master at the Court Meeting on 29th June for what will be our first full year as a Livery Company. The Wardens for the year are Peter English (Thames Warden), Gerald Noone (Fleet Warden) and Kevin Bond (Walbrook Warden).

My first action as Master was to install Ted Jackson as the Deputy Master for the coming year. He has had an outstanding year as Master, particularly in respect of the grant of Livery and the clothing of so many of our Freemen as Liverymen. The Company owes him a huge debt of gratitude and I am sure that we are all delighted that he is recovering so well from his dreadful accident in early August.

There are a number of other changes on the Court. Mike McDowell, Geoff Truesdale, Mike Hindhaugh and Alan Maskell have had to resign now that they have reached the age of 70. They were all Founder Court Assistants, while Mike McDowell was our Founder Master from 1988 to 1990; Geoff Truesdale was our Founder Middle Warden from 1988 to 1990 and Master from 1991 to 1992; and Mike Hindhaugh was our Clerk from 1990 to 1996. We will miss their collective wisdom but hopefully Mike McDowell and Geoff Truesdale (together with Chris Shirley who resigned from the Court in 1997) will continue to attend Court Meetings in an advisory capacity, as is their right as Past Masters. To replace these resigna-

tions, three new Court Assistants have been appointed (Peter Cook, David Lloyd and Sue Owen) and we look forward to the major contribution that I am sure that they will make.

Another major change concerns Hugh Berridge who has decided that now is the time for him to stand down from being our Clerk. Hugh was the Founder Upper Warden from 1988 to 1990, Master from 1990 to 1991 and Clerk since 1996. In recognition of everything that he has done for us, Hugh has been appointed Clerk Emeritus which will enable him to continue his involvement in the development of the Company and in ceremonial occasions.



Ralph Riley, who has done so much to keep us on the straight and narrow over the last 12 years, has moved up from Deputy Clerk to be Clerk in Hugh's place.

The next year promises to be a busy one for the Company. You have previously received a paper on the Future Role of the Company which was initiated by Ted Jackson. The paper was discussed at a Common Hall Seminar in May. This was attended by over 40 members who all made valuable contributions to the debate on the future direction of the Company. Particular issues which are now being examined in more detail by three sub-committees are; Membership, the City and Water Conservation. I am looking forward to receiving their conclusions and recommendations later this year.

The Company now has 200 members of whom 150 have been clothed in the Livery. A limited number of members have indicated that they wish to remain as Freemen, but there are still about 40 Freemen who wish to become Liverymen but who have not yet been clothed. For at least the next 12 months, clothing ceremonies will be held at all Court Meetings and all those Freemen who wish to take the Livery should liaise with Ralph Riley to determine the most convenient date for them to attend.

During my year as Master, I am keen to improve the inclusiveness of all members of the Company. I am conscious that many of our events can be relatively expensive for a number of our members, particularly if they bring guests. I wish to increase the number of activities which are less expensive than our more formal lunches and dinners.

As a first step, we are organising two Business Lunches, one this autumn and one in the spring, which we hope to price at £30 per head or less. These will give members the opportunity to meet (with a guest speaker) to discuss topics of particular interest. If these two lunches are successful, the number can be increased in subsequent years.

I am also keen to increase the number of social events, particularly those that can be attended by partners and guests. The membership of the Functions Committee has therefore been increased substantially and it will be their responsibility to develop the programme for the year.

We have decided that, since this is the year in which we were granted Livery, the Company will have a float in the Lord Mayor's Show on Saturday 11th November (as will the Worshipful Company of World Traders who received the Livery at the same time as us). A small committee under the chairmanship of Past Master Ted Flaxman has developed the design of our float. We have had great support from Col Mike Reynolds and his colleagues at the Military Works Force at Nottingham, who will be providing the vehicles. Liverymen will walk with the float dressed as water carriers (buckets will be empty!) and with daughters or granddaughters dressed as teardrops. I hope that you will come along to support us. Previous Shows have been a most enjoyable day out for the family.

Master

About the new Master

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A Chartered Engineer, he was educated at Blundells School, Trinity Hall (Cambridge) and Imperial College (London). He is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, a Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers and a Fellow of the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management.

He has spent his whole career as a consulting engineer specialising in the water industry. He began work with John Taylor & Sons in 1962 and was made a Partner in 1974. In the late 80's, Taylors merged with another firm of consultants (Freeman Fox & Partners) to become the Acer Group which ultimately employed over 3000 staff. In 1992, the Acer Group was acquired by Welsh Water (now Hyder). At the time when he left Acer early in 1995, he was Deputy Chief Executive.

He then joined Southern Water as Managing Director of their engineering consultancy (McDowells) and their overseas business (Southern Water Global). Following the acquisition of Southern Water by Scottish Power, he joined the Halcrow Group at the end of 1997 and retired on his 60th birthday at the end of May 2000.

During his working career, he was involved extensively in the international side of the business and has travelled widely overseas, although mainly to the Middle East and SE Asia. He lived in Iran for over 2 years in the early to mid 70's.

He has taken a keen interest in Institutional affairs and, at various times, has been a Council member at the Association of Consulting Engineers, the Institution of Civil

Engineers and the Royal Academy of Engineering.

He and his wife Judy live in Warnham, near Horsham in West Sussex, but they also have a house in North Cornwall which they try to visit once a month. They have two daughters and one son. One daughter lives in Newcastle, the other in Kenya and the son in South Africa.

His interests include all forms of sport, ornithology and sea fishing. He used to play rugby and cricket, but is now restricted to being a keen golfer. He has also just started playing the piano.



Deputy Master's Report 1999/2000

INTRODUCTION

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At the end of his year of office, the Immediate Past Master should give a report on the events and business affairs of the Company. However the Deputy Master, Ted Jackson put his head into a wasps' nest and only by the skill of two teams of paramedics is he still alive today. He is steadily recovering and has been able to attend the Olympic Games in Australia. THEREFORE This report has been written by Past Master Colin Bland at request The DEPUTY MASTER.

LIVERY STATUS

On 1st January 2000, the Company achieved its ambition to become the 102nd Livery Company of the City of London. The Lord Mayor presented the Letters Patent to the Master and the Master of Worshipful Company of World Traders at a very impressive ceremony at the Mansion House on 25th January. The Clothing Ceremony held at the Guildhall on 15th March was a



great success with 107 Freemen being clothed in the Livery. The expenses of obtaining Livery were held within the budget.

The Master wanted the obtaining of Livery status to be just the beginning of the way forward for the Company. He chaired a seminar looking at new role of the Company. A paper by the Wardens was outlined by the Master and debated by the Liverymen present. From this, three sub-committees were set up to look at Membership and the requirements of Liverymen and Freemen, the interaction of the Company with the Lord Mayor, and the City and the Environment.

MEMBERSHIP

The Company has continued to grow during the past year, the total membership reached 200, there being 150 Liverymen and 50 Freemen. It is expected that this growth will continue during this year.

FINANCES

The financial position remains very sound with a small increase in the reserves. This was better than expected taking into account expenses of the primary Livery functions.

ADMINISTRATION

The main administration of the Company has since the 1st July 2000 been carried out from the new Clerk's home. However the Company's official address is still Watermen's Hall.

CHARITIES

The Charitable Trust Fund and the Water Conservation Trust have seen a small increase in funds during the past year. The Charitable Trust Fund has continued to help people from the water industry. The Water Conservation Trust's Tony Drake Travelling Scholarship awardee has completed his visit to the USA and is writing his report.

LINKS WITH THE ARMED

FORCES

The final link to the armed forces was forged when the Affiliation Document between the Company and the Aeronautical Information Documents Unit (AIDU) of the RAF was signed. A visit was made to its base at Northolt and after lunch members present had a flight over London at 2,000 feet in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight. Visits were also made to HMS Scott at Devonport and The Royal Engineers at Chatham.

EVENTS

The last year was very active with the Master attending a wide range of functions both of this Company and other Livery Companies. The list of those attended in the months of March to June inclusive are given in this Newsletter. The main Company events were those which took place after Livery was granted and reported elsewhere.

CONCLUSIONS

The past year was momentous for the Company and the Deputy Master. It was a success not only in the elevation of the Company to Livery status but its steady growth and financial stability. Dr Ted Jackson carried the Company forward during his year in office as Master and it is hoped that he will soon be restored to full health. He has been helped tirelessly throughout his year and nursed back to health by his wife Ann.



Past Master's Events March to June 2000

March 2000

- Institute of Physic's lecture
- Clothing Ceremony
- The Worshipful Company of Plumbers' Dinner
- Modern Companies Dinner

- Chartered Insurance Institute Dinner
- The Worshipful Company of Marketors' lecture
- Celebration Lunch for the formation of the Company
- The Worshipful Company of Actuaries' Lunch
- CIWEM Annual Dinner
- Lord Mayor's Dinner
- United Guilds Service

April 2000

- The Honorable Company of Master Mariners' Lunch
- Visit to HMS Victory
- Election Court Lunch
- The Worshipful Company of World Traders' Dinner
- The Company of Watermen and Lightermen Lunch

May 2000

- The Worshipful Company of Brewers' Dinner
- Royal Engineers Award Presentation
- The Worshipful Company of Engineers' Dinner
- View Day St Bartholomew's Hospital
- Watermen's Company Doggett's Coat & Badge Wager Race
- The Worshipful Company of Tin Plate Workers' Dinner
- The Festival of the Sons of Clergy Service
- The Worshipful Company of Management Consultants' Dinner
- Seminar on the Role of the Company
- Tudor Pull

June 2000

- St Paul's Walk and Thanksgiving Service for Churches of London
- Cricket Day
- The Worshipful Company of Drapers' Lunch
- The Worshipful Company of Gun Makers' Dinner
- Election of Sheriffs
- The Worshipful Company of Merchant Tailors' Dinner





Company Matters

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Dr Martin Griffiths
Head of Water Quality
Environment Agency

Mr Frank Jones
Director
British Plastics Federation

Mrs Karen Morgan, OBE
Non Executive Director
Wessex Water Services Ltd

Miss Jo Parker, MBE
Director of Operations
North Surrey Water

Mr Mike Stone
Managing Director
Anglian Water

Dr Laura Wright
admitted by presentation
as Honorary Archivist

The University of East London

The popularity of the University of East London's (UEL's) modular MSc and post-graduate courses in Pipeline Technology and Management has ensured a steady growth of student numbers, as well as a bright future for a new research group. Industry partnership and course flexibility have been the keys during its third year. The Worshipful Company of Water Conservators were founder sponsors of the Professorial Chair at UEL, along with Anglian Water, Thames Water, and a number of trade associations. UEL's initiative, as its Pipeline Technology and Management Group, matures into the new millennium.

The Company and sponsors of the new Pipeline Technology and Management Group at the University, realised that the sound future of the country's buried pipe treasure lay with highly qualified staff. The need for a high level of professional skill to manage these networks was not being adequately met. Three years on, the initiative and confidence of the original sponsors have proved to be well founded. The Group has seen a steady growth in students, but has capacity for a few more. Students come from all over the UK, and from many different water companies. They even have a student who has been commuting from Malawi for the modules.

The Master of Science degree offered by UEL, recognises the increasing professionalism, complexity and diverse technologies required in the management of pipe network systems. The University encourages participation on the course by anybody who can offer the appropriate qualifications and / or experience. The modules are specifically tailored for those involved in pipe, pipeline and pipe network activities, who wish to broaden their knowledge and expertise in pipeline management, operation, and design. In its first three years, activity has focussed on serving the water supply and sewerage needs of the original sponsors, but soon the courses will be extended to cover pipe systems carrying gas. There are two major attractions to this particular MSc. One has clearly been the residential, modular, one week block study format, which allows students to obtain a masters degree whilst remaining in full-time employment. The other attraction is that many leading UK and European practitioners have been recruited to join the academics to deliver the lectures, many of them Liverymen. Current modules vary from topics such as Sewerage Operations and Water Supply Network Maintenance to

Project Management & Financial Management, via the more fundamental areas of Soil Mechanics and the Structural Design of Pipelines.

No longer is education offered by UK Universities in constrained packages. Flexibility is the key word. The whole course at UEL has been structured in such a way that each module is not only offered as part of the MSc, but each can also be studied as a stand-alone subject, for personal continuing professional development (CPD) programmes, much like the established approach of the Open University. Study for the MSc can be over any period from two to six years. In 2001, the course will be coming of age when it will opening its doors to its first full time students, in response to a demand from home and abroad.

Professor Roger Stokes, previously from the Water Research Centre at Swindon, holds the Chair in Pipeline Technology and Management at UEL, and Jeff Rasbash, until recently Thames Water's Sewerage Policy and Standards Engineer, is the Teaching Fellow. Both are Liverymen. Jeff is responsible for the development and delivery of these pioneering courses and said, "We are extremely grateful to the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators for Sponsoring the Chair, for the first three years. It was essential seed-corn to allow us to establish ourselves. Without the sponsorship, the idea would still be a dream. Our course is unique in the UK, and I'm very pleased with progress so far, from a standing start. Our experience over this period has indicated that we are providing students and employers with exactly what they want, in the format they want it, but we are still learning and adapting to meet our students' needs."

As with all universities, alongside

formal learning is research. This is also continuing apace at UEL. Plastics pipes arrive at the department's laboratory doors, for testing, from all over the UK, and indeed the world. Whether it is pipes and fittings for analysis, as a new product under development; or samples of pipes that have prematurely failed; or original research into test methods and products currently on the market, the post graduates, research students and research fellows are kept very much on their toes. Research papers are regularly published in the technical press and specific reports prepared for industry clients.

The group is currently undertaking research in such varied topics as:
An EEC project on trenchless pipe renovation systems;

- Structural performance of old iron water mains;
- Removal systems for faulty sewer linings;
- Resistance to damage of structured wall plastics sewer pipes;
- Under pressure tapping systems for plastics water mains;
- Residual asset lives of plastics water distribution networks;
- Soil structure interaction on highly flexible pipes;
- Scratch sensitivity of plastics water mains; and
- Serviceability of plastics domestic hot water and central heating systems etc.

If you want any further information about the department at the University of East London, or the MSc itself the contact details are:

Telephone 0208 223 2360;
Fax 0208 223 2929;
E-mail addresses are:-
r.f.stokes@uel.ac.uk or
j.b.rasbash@uel.ac.uk.

Web site <http://www.uel.ac.uk/pipe-line>.

Maidstone Sea Cadets

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The Master, together with the Mayor of Maidstone, attended the Annual Royal Navy Inspection of the Maidstone Sea Cadets on 27th July. As Liverymen will recall, the MSCC is affiliated to HMS SCOTT. The inspection involved a number of drills and demonstrations by the Cadets, followed by a test for the younger members which was devised on the evening by Commander Prime, the Inspecting Officer.

The Cadets skills were very ably demonstrated and it is to be hoped that they receive a pennant when the results are announced in October. Pennants are awarded to the top 10% of the Sea Cadets in the country and the dedication of Lt Peter Lewis and his colleagues is shown by the fact that the Maidstone Cadets have received a pennant each year for the past 12 years.

The Officers and Cadets clearly value the help that we have been able to give them during the past 3 years. There are 40 Cadets who are all aged between 11 and 18. They attend the Unit twice a week, which is remarkable when one considers the range of activities that are available to the younger generation.

At the conclusion of the evening, the Master presented a Certificate to the Cadet of the Year, Petty Officer Cadet Victoria Colebrook. The Certificate recognises that the Company will pay for her to have one week's berth on the Training Ship Royalist.

Each year the Company funds a one week's berth on the magnificent tall-masted Training Ship ROYALIST for the 'Cadet of the Year' in the Maidstone Sea Cadet Corps.

In 1999 the prize was awarded to Leading Cadet Victoria Colebrook for excellence in Attendance, Efficiency, Commitment and Standard of Dress. Victoria joined as a Junior at the age of 10 and has recently passed her Promotion Board for Petty Officer Cadet with very good marks. She has 1st Class qualifications in Seamanship, Writer/Stores and Cook/Steward specialisations and is a member of 0.22 Shooting Team which won the West Kent District Competition last year.



The photo shows Victoria being presented with the Cadet of the Year Trophy by the Mayor of Maidstone Councillor Francis Brown at the MSC annual presentation evening.

*We would like to
hear your news and
views*

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Water Conservators,
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Company *events*



Company
Matters

EVENTS 2000/2001

Lord Mayor's Show

City of London
11th November 2000

Annual Dinner

Drapers' Hall
16th November 2000

Social Outing

Somerset House
5th December 2000

Carol Service

St Michael's Cornhill
5th December 2000

Winter Lunch

TBA
7th February 2001

Business Lunch

Royal Geographic Society
13th February 2001

United Guild Service

St Paul's Cathedral
30th March 2001

Election Court/Lunch

TBA
25th April 2001

Golf Day

Ellesborough
20th June 2001

Election of Sheriffs

Guildhall
22nd June 2001

Installation Court/Lunch

TBA
4th July 2001

Conservancy Day

Mansion House/River Thames
13th July 2001

Michaelmas Court/Lunch

TBA
19th September 2001

Ceremony at London Stone

On the morning of 30th March 2000, the Mayor of Spelthorne, Councillor John O'Hara welcomed at St. Peter's Church Mr. Peter Nutting, High Sheriff of Surrey, the Right Reverend Michael Colclough, Bishop of Kensington and the Deputy Master Colin Bland and requested that the party cross the road and embark on Queen Victoria's Royal Barge. All were fully gowned. The owner of the Royal Barge, Mr. Val Lewis, ensured it was a smooth passage up the River Thames to the London Stone by having the barge converted to electric power and giving a glass of wine to his guests.

The Stone marked the most westerly point on the River Thames over which the City of London had jurisdiction from the year 1197. It is thought that it was positioned at the tidal limit of the river. It was replinthed in 1781. The original now stands in Staines Library. An inscription on the stone, almost obliterated, reads: "God preserve ye city of London AD 1197". It is also adorned with the City Arms and Motto and the names of various visiting Lord Mayors. The ceremony of their visits ended in 1857 when the city lost control of the river to the Thames Conservancy.

The Mayor requested the High Sheriff and the Deputy Master to stand by him with their swords touching the Stone whilst he revived the ancient ceremony by making the proclamation "God preserve the City of London". There then followed a short service at which the

Bishop blessed the Stone. Those gathered around then raised their glasses to the Stone.

The Mayor led his guests back to the Royal Barge for it to glide tranquilly back down the Thames as it had been done centuries before.



Proclamation at the London Stone

Visit to HMS Victory

At the invitation of Honorary Freeman Captain Bob Mark RN, the Master and a small party from the Court visited HMS Victory and the Royal Naval Museum at Portsmouth on 10 April 2000. The Master was accompanied by the Thames Warden, Past Masters McDowell, Flaxman, Hewett and Bland and Court Assistant English.

Berthed in her dry dock amongst impressive and historic buildings, the country's most famous warship is still in commission in the Royal Navy. She is commanded by Lieutenant Commander Frank Nowosielski RN, who welcomed the party on board.

During coffee in the Great Cabin he described life on Victory for the senior officers in Nelson's time. Observing that the taller Past Masters were practically bent double to avoid the low beams, he exploded the myth that everyone was considerably shorter in the 19th century! For example Captain Hardy, who commanded Lord Nelson's flagship at Trafalgar, stood well over 6 ft tall! The low ceilings were in fact an outcome of the effort to keep the ship's centre of gravity as low as possible. Everyone on board had to live with the consequences! After this welcome the party embarked on a specially conducted tour of the ship - still keeping their heads down.

The tour vividly illustrated the harsh conditions of life for the ship's company of 820 men and boys. Nevertheless Nelson looked after his men and was greatly loved and respected as a result.

He died aboard his beloved ship off Cape Trafalgar in 1805 after breaking the French and Spanish line and leading the British fleet to a decisive victory. The exact spot at which he fell from an enemy musket shot is marked on the deck.

After lunch at the Old Naval Academy the party visited the Royal Naval Museum. Now modernised and redeveloped, the Museum features a very realistic audio-visual presentation of the fury and sound of war on one of Victory's gundecks at Trafalgar. It also houses the magnificent Wyllie Panorama of the battle and many other fascinating artefacts.

The visit was extremely interesting and enjoyable. In view of the Company's Naval affiliation, the party much appreciated the opportunity provided by Captain Bob Mark to 'do their duty' by Britain's greatest naval leader.

Visit to The Royal Engineers Museum

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The long and fascinating history of the Corps of Royal Engineers is well presented at the RE Museum in Chatham, the home of the Corps. Aware of the attraction Hon. Freeman Colonel Mike Reynolds organised a visit to the Museum on 9th May 2000.

Three themes in the Museum tell the story of the Sappers. The first theme is the Corps in battle. The second is innovation and the use of technology. The third theme is the little known world-wide work of the Corps in civil engineering, architecture and survey. For example, in Canada the Sappers constructed the Rideau Canal, opened in 1832. They marked the 49th Parallel for the 1858 North American Boundary Commission. They built the Royal Albert Hall and also mapped the Holy Land, a part being taken by a certain Lieutenant Kitchener RE whose theodolite could be seen.



The Master, Dr Ted Jackson, presenting the Award to Sapper Harris

The displays of equipment and photographs, the medal gallery, the costumes and curios all illustrate these three themes vividly and make the Museum a very worthwhile and interesting visit.

In our own time the Sappers are working in Bosnia and Kosovo. For this reason the Master felt it entirely appropriate that the Water Conservators MWF Award, given this year to Sapper John Harris RE, should be presented to him during the visit.

Sapper Harris is a member of 521 Specialist Team RE (Water Development) operating in Macedonia and Kosovo. He played a vital role in the repair of the water supply system in Pristina and in restoring supplies to the hospital in Lipljan, one of the worst trouble spots in Kosovo. His performance was regarded as outstanding and way beyond that expected of his rank and experience. The Master duly presented Sapper Harris with his Certificate amidst acclamation from the assembled party.

The visit concluded with lunch in the impressive HQ Officers Mess at nearby Brompton Barracks, location of the Royal School of Military Engineering. This was followed by a tour of the Mess and an explanation by the Mess Secretary of the many paintings and artefacts in the historic building.

Conservancy Day

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The 14th July is an important date in the Company's calendar as it marks the anniversary of the day when in 1197 King Richard I sold the conservancy of the River Thames to the Corporation of London.

To mark this event, the Master accompanied by the Deputy Master,

the Thames Warden, the Fleet Warden Elect, the Clerk, the Clerk Emeritus and Honorary Liveryman (Alderman Sir Christopher Leaver) went to the Mansion House and presented to Alderman Sir Richard Nicholls (representing the Lord Mayor) an engraved glass jug containing Thames water.



Presentation of Thames Water at the Mansion House

This is the fourth year that we have made such a presentation and, as usual, the presentation was followed by a lunch on the Thames which was attended by Company Members and their guests.

Launching the Company's Cutter

On Saturday 14th October, members of the Company and their partners met at the Richmond Boat House for the launch of the Company's cutter. This is the seventeenth Thames Cutter that has been built by Mark Edwards, twelve of which are owned by other Livery Companies.

After a reception hosted by the builders, Paul Satow spoke about the Great River Race that takes place every September. The Master's wife then named the cutter, the "Water Forget-me-Not", and everyone was given the opportunity to be rowed up the river by four volunteers from the boatyard.

The cutter had been built with great skill and dedication by Mark Edwards and his team and will be a credit to the Company when it is used under its Colours for ceremonial occasions and in races on the river. For such occasions, the cutter will be rowed either by junior apprentices from the Watermen's Company or by the rowing club in east London where it will be housed. For the rest of the year, the cutter will provide educational and sporting opportunities for the less advantaged to take part in traditional rowing.

The commissioning of the cutter has only been possible as a result of the generosity of a number of companies who have contributed to the costs. These are; Anglian Water, Aquabio, Coflex, Northumbrian Water, Pennon, Severn Trent Water, Thames Water and Yorkshire Water.



The Master's wife, Judy Paul naming the cutter at Richmond

Golf Day

The Company's Golf Day, organized for the second year by Tony Nockles, was held at Ellesborough on a pleasant summers day on 21st June.

After an excellent dinner, the prizes were presented by the Master, Dr Ted Jackson.

Results

Team prize

Nick Paul
David Shaw
Jo Shirley

Nearest the pin Richard Waller

Guests

Winner David Shaw 39 points
Runner-up Mike Whitford 35 points
3rd place Andy Atkinson 32 points

Dewplan Trophy

Winner Nick Paul
Runner-up Roger North
3rd place Doug Smith

Bill Smith Trophy

Winner Roger North 50 points

HMS SCOTT

A message was recently received from HMS SCOTT. She is on a long deployment overseas so we are unlikely to see her for some time. The message read:

"We are enjoying our first run ashore at the beginning of a grueling 23 month deployment that will take us from Halifax in Canada to the Seychelles via the Middle East. A lot of training on board is occupying many waking hours but we are fully ready for the challenge! Best wishes to everyone. Take care!
From HMS SCOTT Ship's Company".

The Master has sent the following message in return:

"To: Commander Trevor Horne RN
Thank you very much for keeping us in the picture on your movements. You are certainly on a long deployment but we have not forgotten you. HMS SCOTT is often mentioned in conversation but sometimes we forget where you are! We much appreciate your news. I took over as Master from Ted Jackson on 29th June. Hopefully I will be able to meet you again somewhere in your travels during my year. If not, I fully understand the difficulties! Enjoy the Seychelles and good sailing across the Atlantic! Best wishes from everyone here for a successful deployment.
Nick Paul, Master"

Since this communication, Commander Jamie McMichael Phillips has taken command of HMS SCOTT.