

The Carpenters' Company Chronicle 2024



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Foreword by the Master

This has been a tempestuous year in which to be Master Carpenter, with a protracted and ugly war raging in Eastern Europe, increasing threats to global stability from polarising ideologies and intransigent authoritarian regimes, internecine wars in Africa, and a renewed and devastating conflagration in the Middle East. On the home front, we have had a General Election, the total rout of the Tories, and the installation of the first Labour government in more than a decade.

Against this precariousness and instability, the ancient history and traditions of the Livery Companies of the City of London provide a necessary and welcome counterbalance - in a straitened world such as ours, it is an immense privilege to be part of a community of like-minded people who

believe in decency, charity, fellowship and the greater good. As I have increasingly discovered, the Carpenters' Company is unique, representing the oldest extant craft, yet still being committed, through our Building Crafts College, to the training and development of woodworkers,

stonemasons and building craftsmen and craftswomen at the highest levels. The College has flourished in the last year under the leadership of our new Principal, Selena Bolingbroke, and her team. The Consorts' visit organised by my wife Caryn elicited many positive comments and compliments, and a deep appreciation of the College and its students who, along with their Principal, were most enthusiastic and impressive.

We are very fortunate in having a magnificent Hall, situated on the same site since 1429 and showcasing our wood heritage; yet more than that, the College positions us as one of the very few ancient Livery Companies still directly involved in the promotion of excellence in the furtherance of its craft. In a world in which sustainable timber is making a comeback as a building material valued for



The consorts' visit to the Building Crafts College in May



The Master Dr Allen Zimble



Left to right: **Adjutant Captain Thomas Nelson, the Master, HM Queen Camilla and Lt Col Mike Devenish**, Officer Commanding, 4 RANGER Regiment at the Rifles' Awards Dinner

its low carbon footprint, that is significant and consequential. The end of year show held at the College in July illustrated an inspiring diversity of skills across a range of wood, stone, and brick applications that left me and our guests in no doubt as to the high level of craftsmanship achieved by our students, and the confidence and pride that went with it.

No less exciting was the high octane and hugely entertaining Annual Craft Lecture delivered to a full Hall by Sir Grayson Perry, resplendent in a Central St Martin-designed outfit of many colours, excoriating those elements of the art world that deigned to look down on craft, and criticising the inflated value attributed to some art, including his own. A report by the Clerk follows. Other unforgettable highlights of my year, including the flamenco evening at the Freeman's Reception, the highly successful Company visit to Bologna and my own visit to Christ's Hospital School, are reported elsewhere.

My visit to the prize-giving ceremony at Carpenters Primary School brought home

the real struggle experienced by State schools in less fortunate environments. I could only applaud the fortitude of teachers trying to deal with pupil populations from mainly immigrant families, a significant proportion of whom having special educational needs, some requiring one-on-one assistance. Having our own Building Crafts College a stone's throw away provides a beacon of opportunity and hope for some of these families. Nevertheless, I was struck by the pride and joy of the graduating class - their singing on stage, poems and speeches, and their appreciation of the book of their choice I presented to each.

The Court visit to Rustington Convalescent Home took place in July, when the Home Committee of Management held its annual meeting there and we were given a tour of the Home, followed by a delicious lunch in a marquee on the immaculate lawns. A number of guests attended, including HM Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex, Lady Emma Barnard, representatives of the local Sussex hospitals and all of our highly appreciative Service Users. The Home, looking marvellous in the brilliant sunshine, has had a post-Covid resurgence, with occupancy rates of 63% exceeding both pre-Covid levels and the target for 2024. A separate report follows.



The Master (centre right) at the November Livery Dinner, with the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs (left to right) **Alderman Dame Susan Langley, Lord Mayor Michael Mainelli and Alderman Broniek Masojada**

Our valued relationships with our affiliations continued during my year. Though HMS Daring remains in dry dock not daring to launch anytime soon, we welcomed to the Hall the Royal Military Engineers, presenting an award to their best Carpenter, IV Squadron at RAF Valley, presenting an award to their best pilot, and 4 RANGER Regiment, making an award to their Chosen Man, who was a female medic Corporal. 4 RANGER Regiment were kind enough to invite the Clerk and me to their Rifles Awards Dinner at Guildhall in November, where I was privileged to be presented to their Honorary Commander-in-Chief, HM Queen Camilla, who gave an excellent address to an appreciative audience. It was 4 RANGER who invited us to Aldershot for a brilliant range day, where we shot with

Glock pistols and had some more advanced weaponry shown to us, before being treated to a splendid dinner in the Sergeants' Mess.

The issue of dinners weighs heavily during a Master's year, and I certainly had my fill! At our own November dinner we paraded our 'Baron of Beef' and welcomed the new Lord Mayor Prof Michael Mainelli, (our Broad Street Ward Alderman) who launched his 'Connect to Prosper' initiative at the first Livery dinner of his mayoral year. In addition to those held at the Hall, I counted some eighty functions that I attended during the year as Master Carpenter: a great privilege that brought home to me the positive regard in which the Company is held among the Livery community.

By attending all standing committee meetings during my year as Master I saw at first hand the inner workings of the Company. I am enormously impressed with the way the various committees are run and chaired, the diligence with which they go about the serious business of ensuring that the Company remains relevant, solvent, charitable and enjoyable for us all. Finally, I am extremely grateful to my fellow Liverymen, to our Court and to the Clerk for their confidence in me and for making my year possible. I also greatly appreciate the support given to me by Caroline Stevens and the Office Staff, and our excellent Beadle Darren Neal and his Hall Staff.

The Lord Mayor's Show

THE MASTER DR ALLEN ZIMBLER WRITES:

On Saturday 11th November, Armistice Day, a group from Carpenters' and the Building Crafts College were privileged to join the Lord Mayor's Parade through the streets of the City of London. The Lord Mayor was installed at Guildhall in the Silent Ceremony the day before, so this was his first official duty, a celebration of pomp and play that underscored the traditions of our great City. We travelled in an open-topped, double-decker bus organised by Broad Street Ward Club and shared with members of

the Drapers', World Travellers' and International Bankers' companies. Liveryman Lizzie Haynes and I stood upstairs at the front, accompanied by Joe Mercer (Business Manager of the College), Dr Neil Watson (Apprentice Liaison), Sophie Davis (Admin), and students Sam Griffiths (stonemasonry), Harry Palmer (fine woodwork), Jasper Cunningham-Ward (stonemasonry) and Kane Watson (bench joinery).

Leaving Carpenters' Hall in my gown, Master's badge

and Tudor hat, I felt quite odd walking down London Wall to our rendezvous near the old Museum of London. I need not have. In the streets, masses of people dressed in the traditional European garb of the Zurich Guilds were assembling among floats and military units of every description. Gog and Magog, traditional guardians of the City, were there, as were members of the Carmen Company, lining the streets with beautiful classic Blower Bentleys and Rolls Royces.



The bus on Ludgate Hill

We saw Plumbers parading in blue overalls and baseball caps, Goldsmiths in shining gold suits and armoured Mongolian warriors with fixed expressions and long moustaches striding purposefully among them. It felt festive and out-of-the ordinary, and my own Livery clothing looked unremarkable by contrast.

It was indeed a celebration: we saw smiles creasing careworn faces, small children gaping open-mouthed at the wonder of it, people hanging out of windows above us, military bands competing with bagpipes, the drumming of tablas and mridangams, blaring rock music, and our own contribution - the wonderful gents on top of our bus comprising 'The Hendo Washboard Kings', our very

own bus jazz quintet. Blessed with crisp and clear weather throughout, we enjoyed moments of delightful sunshine as our bus, part of a procession of 7000 representing 132 organizations, rumbled its way past happy spectators waving British flags. Before us bounced the inflatable red balloon helicopter of London's Air Ambulance Charity, its diesel generator belching fumes as we progressed.

When we stopped for two minutes' silence at 11.00 am, church bells rang all around us before falling silent out of respect for those who paid the

ultimate price for our freedom. Passing the Mansion House pavilion I doffed my hat, as is the custom, and the Lord Mayor, resplendent in scarlet robes, doffed his in response. I felt a deep sense of connection with the history and tradition of our great City. We were honouring a unique culture: the Square Mile of London, with all its ancient traditions, and its ability to endure in the face of political and economic upheavals down the centuries. It was an extraordinary day in an extraordinary place, and we Carpenters felt proud and privileged to have been part of it.



The Carpenters' and College group

Building Crafts College



Students and staff at the Prize-giving ceremony

THE PRINCIPAL SELENA BOLINGBROKE REPORTS:

This has been my first year in post as Principal and I have been super impressed by the talent and commitment of staff and students alike. I have also been heartened by the warm welcome I have received from members of the Livery and Court.

Working with our Board of Governors, we have developed a new strategy for the College that sets out a path of gradual growth in our student numbers over the next few years, concentrating on our core areas:

Bench Joinery, Site Carpentry, Furniture Making and Design, Stonemasonry and Bricklaying. We will increase our student numbers by 25% over the next 3 years, in particular, stimulating the demand from young local east Londoners.

To that end we have worked hard this year to re-engage with schools in east London, building new relationships with 15 schools across east London. We have held open days every week – we estimate that we have hosted over 500 visitors

on workshop tours this year. We have also been awarded a grant from the Portal Trust to support a new 'Aspiring Construction Crafts Careers' project. This aims to promote construction and craft careers as a first choice destination for 16-18 year-olds through taster days at the College and new careers workbooks.

As the academic year drew to a close, I asked staff to reflect on their personal highlights of the year. There were three areas consistently mentioned:

1. Student Prize Winners

In November we held our annual Prize-Giving Ceremony at Carpenters' Hall. The main address to students came from Liveryman Nick Gutfreund who provided an inspirational insight into his journey from Building Crafts College student to maker of the King's Coronation screen! Many students received accolades and awards during the evening, but our Student of the Year prize was awarded to a Bricklaying apprentice for the first time – Daniel Riley, an apprentice with the Canal and River Trust. Bricklaying has also had some star students this year – Freddy Ford, an apprentice with Global Brickwork, won the regional heats of the national SkillsBuild competition.

2. Field Trips and Employer Engagement

In March we took a group of Stonemasonry students to visit Canterbury Cathedral, and thanks to Past Master John Meardon we were able to gain privileged access to the scaffold and admire the stonework at close quarters. We took a group of our 16-18 Bench Joinery students on a trip to Lutterworth to visit NB Joinery workshop so they could see how a commercial workshop specialising in high quality bespoke carpentry and joinery operates. Employers also came to visit us – we held a Careers Week in May and invited employers from a wide range of companies to give talks to students about the industry, how they recruited, and what our students could expect from their early career years. This has resulted in five additional apprenticeships offered.



3. End of Year Show

The quality of the student work this year was absolutely amazing – all of our subject areas were represented and we had a large audience of proud parents and family members, employers, new friends and stakeholders from our local community and old friends from the wider Livery Company fraternity. It was a joyous occasion. Some of our students will graduate and be ready to exhibit and sell their works. We supported their endeavour this year by providing a gallery-workshop on our website.

As Principal there are a few other areas I would want to give recognition to. It has been a bumper year for us to conduct the end-point-assessments (EPAs) that are the culmination of the apprenticeship training. In the last few weeks of the year alone we held 26 EPAs! So far we have exceptional results and most students have achieved many distinctions awarded by the external assessors. A big thank you to our apprenticeship tutors for their hard work in getting their apprentices ready to meet the occupational standards and take the next steps in their careers.

Instructor **Nigel Gilhison** points out Stonemasonry Diploma student work at the End of Year Show at the College



Will Kirk (right) meeting Bench Joinery students

We have worked hard throughout the year to enhance the College's profile and reputation for quality. We have worked with RIBA and showcased the College's work by taking part in their family engagement days – soap carving providing an accessible way into stone carving! One of our first year Furniture Students, Leo Glevey, had his half scale model staircase included in the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition. Will Kirk, furniture restorer on the BBC's *Repair Shop*, visited the College and was so impressed he came back for a Stone Carving tutorial taster day! Two of our Stonemasonry students were invited to appear on the Bill Bailey *Mastercrafters* TV series – this will be broadcast as part of the Sky Arts Autumn/Winter season. Finally, at the end of the year we hosted a Stone Renaissance summer school in partnership with UCL's Bartlett School of Architecture. Five College students took part and worked alongside twenty Bartlett students on the design, shaping and assembly of structural stone.

In our local community we have again worked with the trustees and volunteers at Cody



Soap carving workshop at the College, part of RIBA's Family Engagement Day

Dock in east London to support their renovation of old canal basin space. Our Bricklaying apprentices built flower planters and our 16-18 Bench Joiners made benches. Our very near neighbours, Transport for London at Stratford station, commissioned four unique benches to sit outside the new station entrance. These were crafted by one of our Furniture graduates, Jonny Axford.

For Building Crafts College staff we have appointed Anthony Lainson as our new Head of Bench Joinery. Anthony has a long history of association with the College and we are delighted to welcome him on board in this senior role. Another important appointment for the College was Frances Hill as Deputy Principal – Frances' expertise saw the College through last year's successful Ofsted inspection and she will oversee all academic and learner matters. Finally, we appointed Steve Wyatt as the College's Business Manager, with experience in a variety of operational roles. We welcome him to help us better organise College business operations. The year ahead will no doubt be even busier: more students,



Leo Glevey's staircase submitted to the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition

new academic and community projects, and many new visitors to the College – I relish the challenge and know that the best of the College will work with the best of the Company to ensure we deliver transformational opportunities for people to learn and excel in our craft.

Craft

Wood Awards 2023

LUCY BEDRY OF TIMBER DEVELOPMENT UK & WOOD AWARDS PROJECT MANAGER REPORTS:

The Wood Awards 2023 reveals outstanding achievements across seven buildings, one interior, and three furniture products. These projects emerge as a testament to the thriving creativity and ingenuity within

the timber community. Sweeping both the Gold Award and the Education & Public Sector award, the New Temple Complex by James Gorst Architects is a triumph of sustainable design.

This multi-faith community space, characterised by peaceful simplicity and serenity, celebrates natural materiality deeply rooted in local history.

New Temple Complex
Gold Award Winner



Black & White Building
Commercial & Leisure winner

In the Commercial & Leisure category, Waugh Thistleton Architects secured the award for their 17.8-metre-high mass timber office complex, the Black & White Building. This structure stands as a testament to innovative design in the commercial sector. For the second consecutive year, a Restoration & Reuse category winner has been crowned. This award recognises commitment

to preserving and revitalising historically significant timber structures and celebrates the enduring beauty and timeless relevance of timber. Westminster Hall Roof and Lantern, meticulously restored by Donald Insall Associates, is a momentous example of timber craftsmanship intricately carved into our national heritage.



Westminster Hall Roof and Lantern
Restoration and Reuse winner



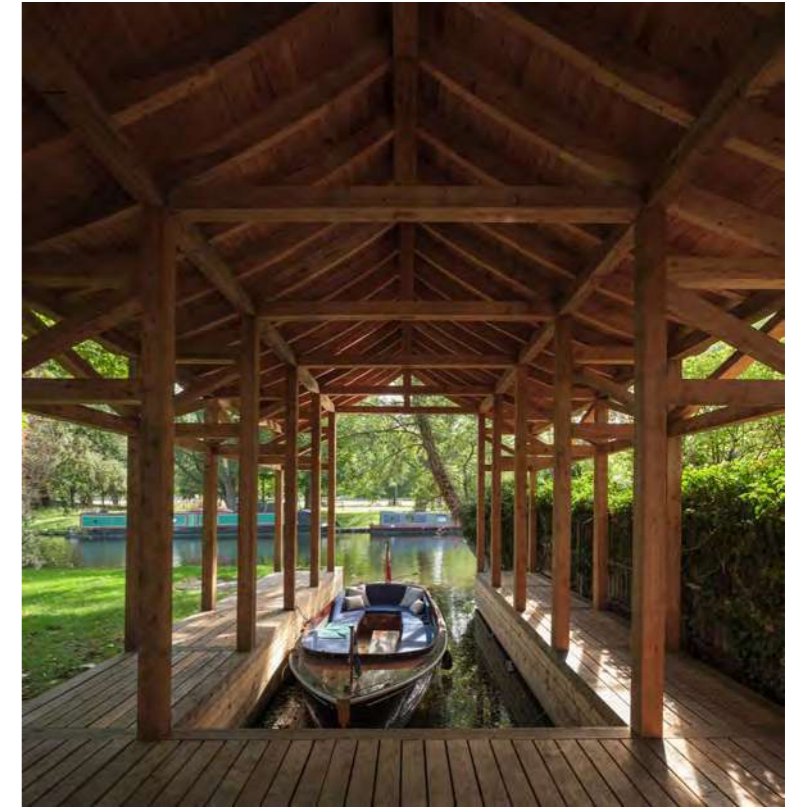
The 'intelligently designed' Dragon Flat by Tsuruta Architects secured the esteemed Interior Award with its seamless fusion of innovative design principles and tactile craftsmanship. In the Private Sector, ao-ft's Spruce House & Studio, a newly built East London home and garden studio, celebrates the beauty and sustainable nature of cross-laminated timber (CLT), breathing new life into an urban environment. Reflecting timber's rich history, The Boathouse by Ashworth Parkes Architects, the Small Project winner, incorporates millennia-old Japanese joinery techniques, creating a structure without a single mechanical fixing.

Dragon Flat
Interiors winner



Spruce House & Studio
Private Sector winner

In the Bespoke category, Serenade by John Makepeace OBE displays a true passion for material and a deep knowledge of its use. This scorched oak chest of drawers is both sculptural and beautifully functional. Within the Production category, Mentsen's collaboration with The Exchange Erith exemplifies sustainable, community-led design and production through the creation of the Exchange Tables and Chairs. In the Student category, Rocaille Morphosis by Joanna Grogan secured acclaim for its exceptional ability and handcrafted finesse, as well as serving as a captivating showcase of the versatility and creative potential of working with wood.



The Boathouse
Small Project winner



Serenade
Bespoke winner

**Benenden School,
Centenary Hall
and Music School**
Structural Award



**Exchange Table &
Chairs** Production
winner

Forging a profound link between the built environment and the natural world, the judges presented a Research & Innovation Award to the Field Station created by the AA Design + Make Programme, recognising how thoughtful design can integrate with and positively contribute to the surrounding natural environment. Hollaway Studios took home the Structural Award for their precision-engineered timber structure at Benenden School, Centenary Hall and Music School. This world-class concert hall facility demonstrates timber's evolving material nature crucial to the 21st century.

As a leading example of sustainable and innovative design, the Black & White Building not only secured the Commercial & Leisure awards but also won the inaugural Sustainability Award. This project has been executed with great integrity, resolution, and coordination, setting a new standard for sustainable timber architecture.

Further information about the Wood Awards can be found at woodawards.com.



Rocaille Morphosis
Student Designer
award



Field Station
Research &
Innovation Award

The Creative Dimension Trust (TCDT)

LIVERYMAN PENNY BENDALL, FOUNDER AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS:

With the generous support of the Carpenters' Company, The Creative Dimension Trust (TCDT) continues to grow from strength to strength, with record numbers of students, offerings, and new partnerships. TCDT offers workshops, where tuition and materials are free, to young people who show potential in forging a career pathway where precise hand-eye co-ordination, and the ability to understand and construct 3-dimensional shapes are prerequisite. Our workshops are open to 14-19 year olds. TCDT launched in 2016 with a clear purpose. In a world of school budget cutbacks, emphasis on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) subjects, and too much time in front of screens, underserved students are simply not getting sufficient opportunities to build fine hand skills and think in 3-D terms. These skills are not only needed in creative industries – a huge job market – but also in careers in architecture and medicine.

Workshops

TCDT started with straightforward skills workshops where young people could learn from world leading experts for free and learn more about career possibilities. Over time, we designed inspiring, eye-catching offerings – like restoring banquettes at Buckingham Palace, re-gilding the shopfront of Fortnum & Mason, and mixing perfumes at Floris – to attract students. TCDT has grown to



Patisserie Skills Workshop at Fortnum & Mason with Executive Pastry Chef Roger Pizey

serve 380+ students in forty workshops per year, having reached over 650 schools.

Beyond Workshops

We have worked hard to go beyond workshops to launching careers. Students are encouraged to provide feedback, enrol in multiple workshops to learn more skills, volunteer as assistant tutors, network, and recruit.

Growth Opportunity – Schools Workshops

An exciting new prospect for growth is in expanding our Schools Programme which piloted in Camden in 2022 and has enjoyed great success. Students respond well as they go straight from class and learn with peers in a familiar setting. Teachers join, learn as well, and become powerful allies. The programme very much enables the student we want to reach and help most. TCDT will be expanding this programme

from 6 workshops to 18+ during the 2024/5 academic year. Here are two student comments - first from Maria Fidelis School, Euston

'...I enjoyed all the workshops I participated in, not only because I was taught by experts who share the same passion for what they do, but also because I met new people and made so many memories. I would highly recommend them to anyone no matter their experience.'

A second from La Sainte Union School, Camden

'The gold leaf gilding course I took part in was a valuable opportunity to improve my hand-eye coordination and proved very beneficial for me when interviewing for Dentistry. I showed the interviewers my gold leaf bauble to showcase my manual dexterity ... I have since got an offer to study dentistry ...'

Accreditation

We launched an accreditation programme both to guide students and provide a credential for employers. Students are using their experience and creative working to support applications for courses and jobs.

Students now receive an accreditation grade in the following skills developed by TCDT:

1. Manual skills: including accuracy, appropriate use of equipment, technical problem solving and dexterity

2. Visual sensitivity: including observational skills, sensitivity to different materials and understanding of their use

3. Organisation and planning: including following a brief in an allocated time and related quality of final work

4. Focus and concentration: including attention to detail

5. Teamwork: including ability to work alongside, and at times, together with other students and attendance

New Workshops for 2024-25
TCDT has delivered workshops in over 90 different skills to date! Additions in 2024/5 are:

Tassel Making – Passementerie
Furniture Making
Patisserie Skills with Fortnum & Mason
Special Effects Make Up for Film & TV
Hand Embroidery Creative
Colour and Thread Painting
Architectural Drawing – Facades and Ornamentation
Leather Tassel Making
Craft Your Own Carry Case
Civil Engineering
Gilding with The Royal Collection Trust
Engineering Drawing
Watercolour Painting

The Creative Dimension Trust would like to thank the Craft Committee of The Carpenters' Company for their continued and generous support.



Mural project 'PARFUM GLORIEUX!' at Fortnum & Mason

2024 Craft Lecture

THE CLERK TIM GREGSON WRITES:



Sir Grayson Perry with the Master Dr Allen Zimble and his wife Dr Caryn Solomon

This year our Annual Craft Lecture was given by Sir Grayson Perry. It proved to be unusually popular, drawing a record attendance, both of Liverymen and their guests and Masters and Clerks from other Companies. It also proved to be utterly original, intriguing and entertaining. Dressed in one of his many iconic outfits, Sir Grayson presented several thought-provoking juxtapositions, focussed mainly on the relationship between craft and art – and his own self-diagnosed 'ambiguous relationship' with both. Most of us experience the pleasure of craft, whether it is the building of model kits of Spitfires and Hurricanes or the bespoke painting of a Harley-Davidson, but not many pursue the hallowed production of 'Art'. Craft offers mind-numbing drudgery (or therapy) through simple (and/or skilful) repetition (10,000 hours at the wheel) and it lacks the pretentiousness of Art, which finds humour a difficult

bedfellow. 'High Art' must be serious and solemn (and pompous), which is awkward in my view for a nation which has produced Shakespeare and Hogarth, Gillray, Rowlandson and Perry. As Sir Grayson explained: 'perfection is unlovable'. We should cherish mistakes and misshapes – and welcome the unexpected. It was a bravura performance, delivered with much self-deprecating wit and laughter. Somehow Sir Grayson managed to get through 92 slides and finish his lecture 'on the dot' of 40 minutes, exactly as planned. He answered several interesting questions from his spellbound audience and then stayed in the Hall for quite a while, fielding further questions and having selfies taken with happy Liverymen. I am delighted to report that Sir Grayson has welcomed the Court's invitation to be admitted to the Freedom on 6th November this year 'in recognition of his excellence in the Craft'.



The City & Guilds Carpenters' Company Livery Prize was presented at Mansion House on March 11th to Building Crafts College student Arthur Campbell (centre left), with the Master (left), Lord Mayor Michael Mainelli (centre right) and City & Guilds CEO Kirsty Donnelly

Company Award for Excellence

LIVERYMAN JIM GREAVES WRITES:

On the 1st of November last year I was honoured to be presented with the Company Craft Award for Excellence. To be in the distinguished company of John Makepeace, Steve Corbett, Dick Onians, Peter McCurdy, Len Conway, Luke Hughes and Sean Sutcliffe as previous recipients of this award is truly humbling.

My career had an inauspicious start. My A-level results were less satisfactory than I had hoped for and consequently I took a year off and worked as a labourer for a small Cotswold building company. There I excelled at digging trenches and helping the company price the architect's plans. During this year my father suggested that I might be a good fit for architecture, I suspect because he didn't want me following him down the artist route! I applied to several universities and was fortunate to be offered an interview at Sheffield University. To my great surprise I was offered a place. Architecture is not taught at school, and it took me two years to begin to understand it. I graduated with distinction in 1981 and took up my first job in a small local practice in Brighton. My projects at that time included overseeing the refurbishment of many of the toilets on the Brighton seafront, terrific experience for a young architect! Fast forward to today and I am one of four principals at Hopkins Architects heading up the design in one of Britain's leading architectural practices. I would never

have dreamed of this career route all those years ago.

When the Clerk informed me that I was to be a recipient of this Award it prompted me to reflect upon the 'craft of architecture'. What is it? A good architect has a 'gift', a creative flair, but they also need to be able to realise that vision. This process is our 'craft.' As a child I used to love my father's studio. He was an artist. I loved the smell of the paints and linseed oil that surrounded me, sitting there on my stool watching him work. Many times since, I have envied his sole control over the creative process, usually when I am frustratingly looking at poor quality work or mistakes on site. It is only now in my later years that I have come to fully understand our 'craft'. Mine was taught to me by one of Britain's most pre-eminent architects, Sir Michael Hopkins.

Our craft is in developing skills and techniques to strive to ensure that the quality of the work is maintained throughout the detailed design and construction process.

The Carpenters' Company and The Wood Awards sponsors have given me the opportunity, as Chairman of the Wood Awards Building Panel, to visit the best buildings using wood each year. A chance to appreciate the craft in other architects' work. During the last two decades the construction industry has undergone a remarkable transformation. There is now much greater awareness of the environmental performance of buildings: re-use and adaptation are becoming increasingly common and advanced design techniques such as parametric modelling are being used to realise complex geometries.



Jim Greaves receives the Craft Award from the Master Dr Allen Zimble

Fire safety issues have created a headwind against the use of wood, but there is a strong imperative to move through this, because if we are going to achieve net zero by 2050 we need to increasingly use wood in construction.

The father of biophilic design, Rene Dubos, wrote in The Wooing of Earth in 1980: 'With our knowledge and sense of responsibility we can create new environments that are ecologically sound, aesthetically pleasing and economically friendly'. Wood fits that description perfectly.



Hopkins Architects' project Haberdashers' Hall in West Smithfield

Royal School of Military Engineering Premier Carpenter

OFFICER COMMANDING MAJOR ALLAN RIDLER REPORTS:

Lance Corporal Callum Neat is an exemplary graduate of the Carpenter & Joiner course that took place from January to August 2023. LCpl Neat earns recognition as the best Carpenter and Joiner in 2023 from 1 Royal School of Military Engineering Regiment; with his exceptional skill set and capability within the trade, he achieved an outstanding mark of 91.67% across the course. Volunteering for the 'Course Senior' role, he

demonstrated his commitment to team collaboration and leadership, often giving up his time to help others. LCpl Neat represented the Corps of Royal Engineers at the annual world skills competition, scoring highly and narrowly missing out on the final. He exemplifies the attributes we expect of our soldiers and has represented 23 (Parachute) Engineer Regiment and the Corps of Royal Engineers with consummate professionalism.



Lance Corporal Callum Neat received his award from the Master at Carpenters' Hall in May, accompanied by Major Allan Ridler

Carpenters' Craft Competition

LIVERYMAN AND COMPETITION CHAIRMAN JOHN TAYLOR REPORTS:

The prizes for the National Winners of the 2023 Carpenters' Craft Competition were presented by the Master prior to the November Court Luncheon at Carpenters' Hall. Unusually, the winners in both categories were from the same college, Exeter College. The winner in the Under-20 age group, Isaac Bruce, received a cheque for £500 and a National Winner's Certificate bearing the Carpenters' Company Seal, signed by the Master, the President of the Institute of Carpenters and Competition Chairman. He also received the Joinery Managers' Association Cup.

Laura Michell, the winner in the Over-20 age group, had entered the competition again following her success in the Under-20 category the previous year. Laura received a National Winner's Certificate, a £500 cheque and the Institute of Carpenters' Shield. Additionally, in recognition of the exceptional standard of her entries in two consecutive years, she was also awarded the George Pysden Trophy, a rare and much coveted accolade. Both winners, accompanied by their college tutors and a personal guest, then attended the Court Lunch, to which the Carpenters' Company also

kindly invited the members of the Competition Committee. The Chairman thanked the Company for sponsoring this most worthwhile competition, which enables students at colleges across the United Kingdom to demonstrate their skills at a level beyond the requirements of normal course-work; the Competition Manager, Freeman Chris Higley; and all those behind the scenes who did so much to make the competition a success. The Chairman paid particular tribute to the tutors who had passed on their skills and encouraged their students to produce such a high standard of work.



Laura Michell (left) and Isaac Bruce (right) with the Master Dr Allen Zimbler

Terence and Anne Mallinson Memorial Doors

THEIR SON MIDDLE WARDEN LAWRENCE MALLINSON WRITES:

The original idea for Memorial doors in St John's and St Michael's Church, Hyde Park, came from a discussion between Anne Mallinson and the vicar Stephen Mason, concerning an appropriate memorial for Terence, her husband, who died in December 2019. Terence and Anne had lived and worshipped in the Parish since 1963. Anne together with her identical twin Jean (wife of Honorary Court Member Tommy Macpherson) had started a nursery school (attended by Liverymen Lawrence, Michael and Roland) in the Church Hall at the same time as Richard Branson started his Virgin empire in the basement.

It was agreed that new doors were needed for the entrance

from the church to the church hall. Anne was keen for the doors to be made from oak to reflect Terence's life long association with the timber trade, his connection to the Carpenters' Company and the Mallinson family motto 'Inde Quercus' ('from thence the oak'). She asked her son Michael to design them together with Brody Neuenschwander, one of Europe's leading calligraphers now based in Bruges, who designed the glasswork which was etched by Andrew Seddon of the Stained Leaded Glass Company. It took almost 4 years to get permission from the Diocesan Advisory Committee by which time Anne had died. It was decided that the doors should be a Memorial for both Anne

and Terence. Mauro Dell'Orco and Steve Cook, graduates of the Building Crafts College, winners of 2022 Wood Awards and joint founders of Workshop East, were chosen as the carpenters. They suggested using 5000 year old Fenland Black Oak as the inlay for the swords (also used to make the spectacular 13m long table now in Lincoln Cathedral – see thefenlandblackoakproject.co.uk).

Design comments: the callipers support the gothic ogee frames to form the Alpha and Omega symbols in the overhead panel. The two saints St John the Evangelist and St Michael are rejoined in the doors design, as the parish is named after them. The sword derives from the flaming sword of St Michael used to defeat the fallen angels, and the two-edged sword which emerges from the mouth of Christ when he appears to St John to inspire his writing.

Anne Mallinson was a Westminster councillor for over 30 years and Lord Mayor of Westminster in 1986. Terence, after a life working in the family timber business (Mallinson-Denny) and a spell as a Forestry Commissioner, was a Liveryman for over 50 years and was very involved in establishing and running the Carpenters' Awards (now the Wood Awards).

The completed door and detail of the etched inscription



Charities & Grants

The Carpenters' Company Charitable Trust

CRAFT & CHARITIES ADMINISTRATOR VIVIENNE POCOCK WRITES:

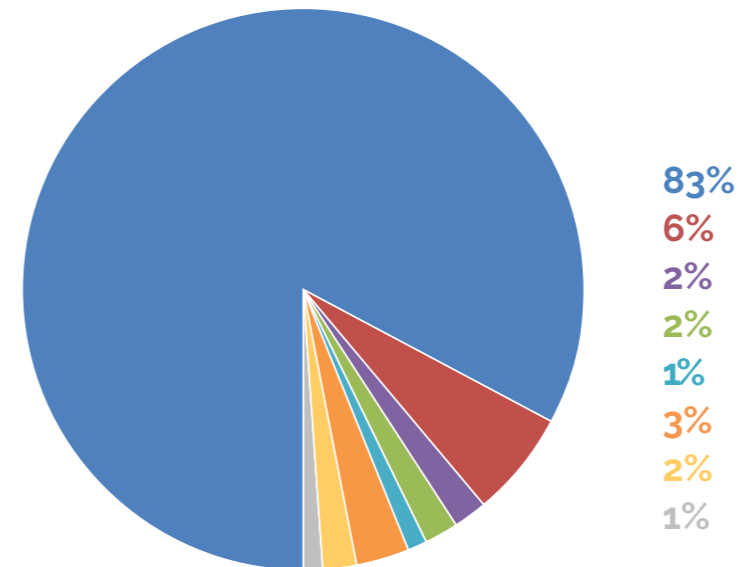
The Carpenters' Company continues to fund The Building Crafts College as the principal beneficiary of the Carpenters' Company Charitable Trust (CCCT) (see chart below): funds are allocated to help offset the College's running costs. Other charities supported include the Lord Mayor's Appeal, the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund, St Paul's Cathedral, and The Soldiers' Charity through The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch. The Lunch took place this year in April 2024 and was attended by 29 of our Liverymen and 3 Rangers and raised £403K. The Committee handed over the astonishing sum of £100,000

to provide financial support for veterans waiting to take part in the Pain Management Programme at the King Edward VII Hospital's Centre for Veterans' Health. A further £100,000 will fund veterans through Lifeworks programmes.

The CCCT also helps fund Schemes such as partnerships with the William Morris Craft Fellowship Scheme, an annual programme attended by craftspeople from different trades.

In addition, we continue to support The Creative Dimension Trust (TCDT), now

in its ninth year having grown to serve almost four hundred young Londoners in forty workshops per year, teaching in over 650 schools. TCDT is also developing an in-schools programme operating in Camden and Tower Hamlets, together with a Work Experience programme across London. Please see the TCDT report on page 16.



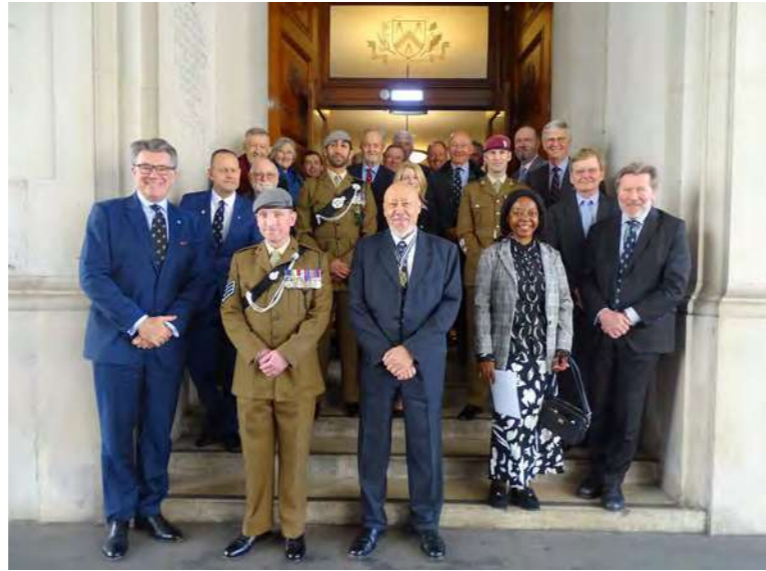
2023 - 2024

- Building Crafts College
- Crafts in general
- Carpenters' & Dockland Centre
- Carpenters Primary School
- Other grants
- Other city grants
- Misc
- Audit Fees

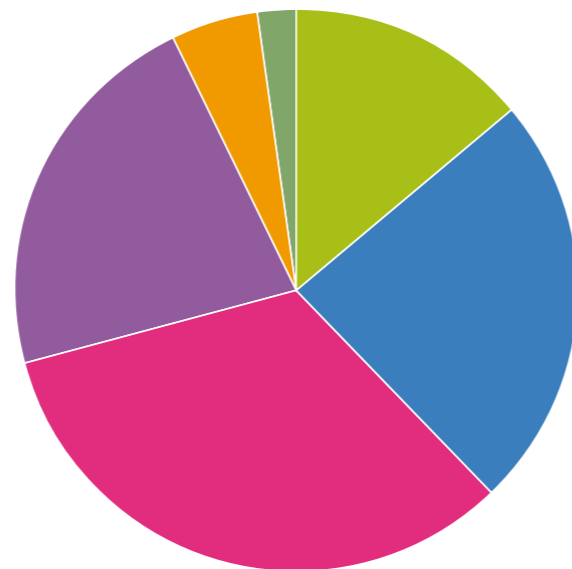
Norton Folgate Trust

The Norton Folgate Trust (NFT) provides support for the needs of individuals, many of whom are engaged in education or craft training (see chart below). Our biggest commitment is to our students at the Building Crafts College. Student grants are also awarded from sources including our Liverymen, the Pysden and Stuckey bequests and the Portal Trust.

In addition, NFT allocates funds to our scholars at City of London schools whom we also follow through their journeys to colleges and universities. One such student is Aaron who is attending a residential programme offering tutoring sessions for pupils applying to medical school. We wish him well in his ambition to become a doctor. Students at the universities of Oxford, Cambridge, City and the Royal College of Music also benefit from the Norton Folgate Trust. Finally, we will soon gain a third presentee at Christ's Hospital: Emily Luton, daughter of Liveryman Rachel Luton and granddaughter of the late Past Master Peter Luton.



Carpenters and Rangers gathered at Carpenters' Hall before attending the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch at Guildhall



2023 - 2024

- 14% Norton Folgate Beneficiaries
- 24% Building Crafts College
- 33% Secondary Education
- 22% Enduring/Tertiary
- 5% Temporary/Tertiary
- 2% Fees

Rustington Convalescent Home

PAST MASTER MICHAEL NEAL, CHAIRMAN OF THE HOME COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The target occupancy of 60% for 2024 for Rustington set in 2023 might have seemed overly ambitious a year ago. However, occupancy rates of 63% are now being achieved which are ahead of the pre-Covid 2018 occupancy rates. While this may seem to be cause for celebration and the second striking of the restored clock tower bell to 'ward off any further evil and welcome the dawn of the new era', caution has to prevail, as

along with the national trend there have been short term outbreaks of infection at the Home. The staff have done an incredible job of managing the outbreaks so that lockdowns are for increasingly shorter periods.

The Care Quality Commission carried out a full inspection of the Home in October 2023. This involved checks on the Inspector's assessment of whether the Home provides a

'safe service' and the extent to which it is 'well managed and led'. The findings were clear that 'people were kept safe from avoidable harm' and the staff had 'received training in safeguarding and were aware of their responsibilities'. This is indeed high praise and testament to the concern for safety at the Home. The report went on to note that the 'management and staff demonstrated an ethos for

A potential new bedroom scheme

BEDROOM SCHEME BLUE MOODBOARD

1. New Roman Blind	5. Decorate walls off white	9. Retain Existing Bed	13. Chair Fabrics
2. New Mirror	6. New Paneling Decorated	10. New Accessories, Bedding	14. Bed Throw
3. New Artwork	7. New wall light	11. New Furniture Chair and Table	15. Table Lamp
4. New Artwork	8. New Plug in Wall Light	12. New Footstool	16. New Chest of Drawer
			17. New Carpet

3 / 5
 DESIGN

providing good quality care for people based around needs and support'. The Home was particularly commended for the 'open and relaxed culture where people were comfortable and happy around staff'. It was also noted that a programme of improvements to the Home were in place. The overall result for the Home was 'Good' which was well deserved.

The reference in the Care Quality Commission to the fabric of the building shows how important it is to keep it in good order. The extensive external refurbishment of the south west facing facades to prevent the ingress of rainwater has been completed. The rooms that had been closed on account of rain penetration have now been redecorated and are fully open. The programme of external repair has now moved to the

northern façade and the clock tower on the southern façade. Thought is being given to the Home's future energy needs and to boosting insulation when repairs are carried out.

Just as the exterior of the building is needing attention, some of the more 'tired' looking bedrooms will be redecorated. The idea is to modernise the bathrooms and provide more appropriate furniture in the bedrooms. On page 25 is a flavour of the schemes that have been produced by an interior decorator with considerable experience of the care sector. The programme for this interior work will be to tackle two or three bedrooms and one public room at a time so as not to disrupt the running of the Home.

The land to the rear of the Home has been sold to Sigma

Homes, a Horsham based house-builder. They have a good reputation in the area for building good quality housing.

The visit by the Court took place in glorious weather in July. Guests included the Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex, Lady Emma Barnard, the service users, representatives of the local Sussex hospitals and the building team.

There is a lot happening at the Home and many changes afoot. Julia Haynes, the Home Manager and her team must be commended for adapting to the changes and those to come. Please take the time to look at our web site at www.rustingtonconvalescenthome.co.uk and please recommend this very special place to anyone you know who would benefit from TLC and sea air.



The Master
addresses the
guests during the
Court visit in July

Docklands Settlements

FREEMAN BEN NORTH, OPERATIONS MANAGER,
CARPENTERS' AND DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE
WRITES:



Samantha White
serving in our
Community Cafe
that runs alongside
the Food Bank
three days a week

Recently we have been fortunate to win some much needed grants from Newham Council, enabling us to continue to run and develop our highly popular and well established Food Bank and Warm Haven projects. In common with food banks across the country, demand for food support continues to grow whilst donations shrink, with large numbers of people increasingly reliant on food banks to survive. We are now supporting more than 1145 customers a week.

The grants, which have become increasingly competitive and seemingly fewer since the end of the Covid crisis, were

decided by a public vote and it is reassuring for us to know that the local population of Stratford and West Ham, who gave us a top rating, value our work and our Food Bank and Warm Haven in particular. These projects continue to run every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning, with a broad selection of people using both. Many local rough sleepers come in for warm food and showers, always delighted and grateful they can clean themselves, have a shave and get their clothes washed, all the while taking part in bingo and other organised events. The crowd is mixed – a real cross-section of people

in Newham. We have now organised an NHS bus to come once a month so people can access chest-xrays, dentists and nurses. There is also a volunteer who cuts hair. Many lonely people come along just to get out of their houses and socialise and benefit from the convivial atmosphere of the Centre.

We are still negotiating for a newly designed community centre. Despite the increased competition for grants, negotiations with Newham and Populo have improved considerably as Mark Horn and our other trustees have dug their heels in while

Lorraine and I appealed to their hearts, reminding them of the immense social value of our work supporting the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in the borough.

We are fortunate to be supported by a large pool of volunteers. Most of our Food Bank volunteers were themselves 'in the queue' and wanted to help. We also receive regular corporate volunteers and donations from local businesses including Mount Anvil, Ethos Farm, Barclays, The Westbridge Hotel, Brookfield Properties and the Financial Conduct Authority. LGT Wealth are also big supporters of our charity at fundraising events. To all of these we are extremely grateful.

Our other activities continue as usual with some recent additions such as 'Baby Grow' – a project that supports the mental health of parents with children under two by providing nappies, baby food, wipes, creams, baby

clothes and anything else the parents might be struggling to afford which may cause mental anguish. We are also launching a new women-only sport project aimed at refugees and asylum seekers with mental health problems. Another new project is our Forest School in which volunteers teach the children about flora, fauna, carbon footprints, recycling, upcycling, growing food, pollination and the importance of bees. Our ever-popular ballroom, line dancing and tearoom dance classes continue to thrive. At the other end of the dancing scale we continue to provide a free venue for our Breakdance Group and a safe, friendly environment for young people to socialise, learn, express themselves and keep fit.

Though we try to be as self-sufficient as possible we still receive substantial support from The Carpenters' Company and are extremely grateful for it. As always, any member of



Acupuncture being carried out at the Community Cafe

the Company is welcome for a tour of our community centre and a chat with Lorraine and me. If you can bring a few tins or a bag of pasta along with you then all the better!

Christ's Hospital

THE MASTER DR ALLEN ZIMBLER REPORTS:

I was privileged to travel to Horsham on Saturday the 25th of May to attend the annual Speech Day of Christ's Hospital School. Our Junior Warden, James Preston, himself an Old Blue and Donation Governor of the school, kindly offered to accompany me. I had not known what to expect, and it is an understatement to say that I was overwhelmed by the magnificence of the school, its beautiful buildings arranged

generously within extensive grounds which stretched as far as the eye could see across lush sports fields.

We first met up for coffee in the spectacular Dining Hall, decorated with an impossibly large 86-foot long painting by Antonio Verrio, depicting the granting of a Royal Charter to the Royal Mathematical School at Christ's Hospital by King Charles II in 1673. We then

met with our two sponsored students, Dylan, who will start his GCSEs in the new academic year, and Betsy, who is about to complete her GCSEs. Dylan, whose favourite subjects are science, mathematics and Design Technology, also takes cello and drum lessons. Betsy has been involved in extracurricular activities such as the silver level of the Duke of Edinburgh award, debating for the school, and sport.

The ceremonies of the day were hugely impressive, starting off with the service in Chapel, which was all the more beautiful for the voices of the splendid Chapel Choir, preceded by recitals on the organ of works by JS Bach, CHH Parry, Pierné and Clérambault, and accompanied by flourishes from the brass ensemble that preceded them. After Chapel, we watched the march past in salute of the Lord Mayor and Sheriff, involving the entire school processing impressively within their classroom groups, to the accompaniment of the school's marching band. Following the salutes, the band itself marched past, and it was

gratifying to see these young people marching in step whilst playing their assorted musical instruments competently, with pride and confidence.

The prize-giving took place in the Old School, where the welcome was given first by the Head Teacher, Mr Simon Reid (a South African who was born in Johannesburg, and went to the same university as I did), followed by the Treasurer and Chairman of Council, Mr Christopher Steane. The delightful Oration was delivered by the Senior Grecian, Zaphaneth, followed by the response of the ebullient Lord Mayor, who is a great supporter of the school.

After the prize-giving, the Junior Warden and I met the winner of the Worshipful Company of Carpenters' Prize for the Grecian who had been exemplary in the study of Art and Design, Corinne, who showed us the impressive artwork she had completed in her final school project.

What struck me most during my enjoyable visit was that this extraordinary school has succeeded in making a warm and welcoming place for young people from London who otherwise would not have had such a fantastic experience. The demographics of the student population fully represent the cultural mix of London in a way that was hugely impressive and gratifying to see.



Left to right: Junior Warden James Preston, Dylan, Betsy and the Master



Left to right: The Master, Corinne and James Preston

Educational Bursaries

ALISSA CREW

Words cannot fully express how grateful I am for the support I have received from the Carpenters' Company this past year while studying Theatre Technology at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. This support has allowed me to attend my dream university without the burden of worrying about my finances, for which I will be forever thankful. I have just finished my first year, during which I have experienced many valuable career-building opportunities. Getting accepted into one of the leading educational sectors for production arts was never something I expected to achieve. In January, I was lucky enough to obtain work experience from Delfont Mackintosh Theatres, where I spent five days shadowing all departments on the multi-award-winning musical *Hamilton*, one of my favourite

shows. I worked on a musical in April also, supported by our Undisciplined programme, in which we produced a rendition of Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd*. In this show I was able to take on my first senior sound role, as sound designer and production sound engineer. These roles have increased my confidence in all areas of sound, from building my technical knowledge to helping expand my ever-growing knowledge of sound and music production. As well as technical skills, this has allowed me to build my skills of resilience, time management and teamwork which are very important in the Production Arts industry. Guildhall is an amazing place to be, and I wouldn't change it for the world. The world is full of opportunities, and I can't wait to seize them. Watch out world, here I come!



On the *Hamilton* set

CARL FOX



Thanks to the support of the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust and the Carpenters' Company, I was able to embark on a life changing twelve months of education to further my practice as a marquetry and parquetry artist. Having spent 26 years as a hairdresser, I had an unwavering love of making and focused all of my spare time on learning heritage craft skills. In 2020 I began my journey into the world of marquetry and parquetry, concentrating on using both leather and wood veneer in

my process. Two materials I felt were destined to be used together. I work abstractly and focus on how memory of time, place or emotion can be triggered by colour and texture alone. I aim to explore our intrinsic connection to nature, and our collective, often unconscious, relationship to materials that have been used by our ancestors for millennia. For me, abstraction is cathartic. A healing process that occurs when texture and colour combine. By using both the tactile nature of leather and

the sweeping grain of wood, I create stories in my pieces that are as individual as the person viewing them. Each and every artwork reflects the observer's experience. Previously, I had always worked on flat work, one off pieces that could be hung on walls. My aim with my Carpenters' Company scholarship was to expand on my existing material knowledge, and to be able to work one on one with established masters in the field. My skills with leather were far more advanced than that of my woodworking, and so I really wanted to focus on exploring the many possibilities that were available with wood as an artistic material. Throughout my scholarship,

I had four main objectives to focus on. Classic veneer work, advanced marquetry skills, sculptural steam bending and bentwood techniques and ageing and patination methods. I really wanted to add and highlight more heritage forms of craft in my practice and bring them to a more contemporary audience. The entire experience has been more beneficial than I could ever have imagined. Working with artists including Abdollah Nafisi, turners Ash and Plumb, and training at renowned furniture school Williams and Cleal has expanded my material knowledge to a point that my practice has flourished immensely. I have recently

started to focus on the history of my craft, introducing elements of floral and scroll work, inspired by the great marquetry masters of the eighteenth century. Whilst still working abstractly, I am now combining traditional hand making skills with contemporary technology, such as laser cutting, to include figurative elements within my practice. The result has been wonderful, and a beautiful homage to a craft I adore. It really has been a joy to gain a renewed vigour, and these lifelong skills will be something I look forward to passing on to the next generation of craftworkers.

JONAH HALTON



Performing 'Oronte'
credit: David Monteith-Hodge

Guildhall School of Music – Opera Programme

It has been a full-on year with the productions given to us (the Respighi double bill and the McNeff commission earlier this year) but my proudest achievement has been singing at the Royal Opera House with the Jette Parker Young Artists in their production of Martinů's *Larmes de Couteau* and John Harbison's *A Full Moon in March*. I certainly would not have been reached out to by ROH if I hadn't been at Guildhall, and I'm grateful that your support made the opportunity

possible. It was a very successful production with four star reviews across the board, most of which are still online should you wish to have a look.

I have completed my time here singing 'Oronte' in Handel's *Alcina* at Milton Court Theatre. It's a fantastic opportunity and the cast and I have had such fun. Thank you once again for your generous support over the course of the programme and I do hope to stay in touch in future.

Carpenters Primary School Christmas Party



The Master Dr Allen Zimble and Beadle Darren Neal pictured with some of the children who enjoyed their annual Christmas party in the Hall in December

The Whiteley Homes Trust

In 2017, Wyatt's Almshouses in Meadrow, Godalming were sold and the funds were transferred to The Whiteley Homes Trust and Whiteley Village, near Walton-on-Thames, a community of older people living independently. To mark the completion of the renovation of the former administration building at Whiteley Village into five flats, a facsimile of the portrait of Richard Wyatt in Carpenters' Hall was presented by Past Master Martin Samuel to

Rachel Hill, the Trust's Chief Executive Officer. The portrait will hang in the renamed 'Richard Wyatt's House', and marks Wyatt's legacy in his Will of 1619 to build almshouses 'for ten poor men of the parishes of Godalming'. The Trust is now offering this new accommodation to older residents in need of housing from Godalming and the surrounding parishes of Farncombe, Hambledon, Compton, Puttenham and Dunsfold initially.

Martin Samuel presented a copy of Richard Wyatt's portrait to Rachel Hill on Thursday 28th March at St Mark's Church, Whiteley Village

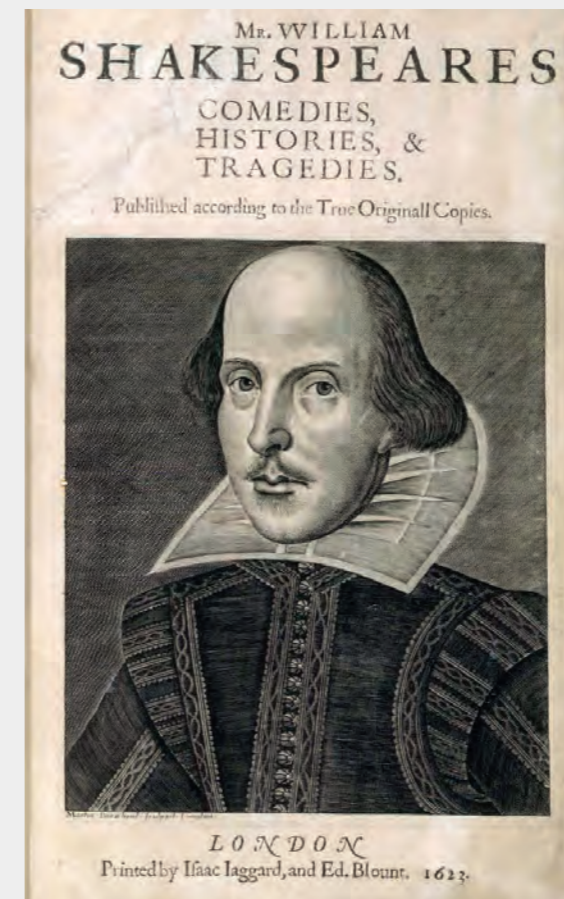


Company History

The Builders of Shakespeare's Theatres

THE ARCHIVIST JULIE TANCELL WRITES:

2023 was the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's 'First Folio', perhaps the most important book in English literature. 36 of his plays were published in this volume, including *Macbeth*, *Twelfth Night* and the *Tempest*, which had not reached print before. Members of the Carpenters' Company, most notably Peter Street (1553-1609), were closely involved with the theatres of Shakespeare's London. The theatres were all constructed (where recorded) by Company members and their apprentices.



British Library Collection C.39.r.15.

They would have known each other well - in the mid 16th century a small area of the City around Basinghall and Coleman Street was home to the Burbage, Brayne and Street families. They were the carpenters who built the theatres of London, neighbours who worked together and married into each others' families. Carefully situated outside the City walls, the theatres avoided the jurisdiction of the City Corporation and Lord Mayor who usually considered them to encourage licentious behaviour and lawlessness. Blackfriars theatre was the only exception but it was located in a 'liberty' within the City and so also free of their regulation.

Robert Burbage

Actor-manager James Burbage was also a joiner, and very likely employed his brother Robert, a carpenter and freeman of the Carpenters' Company, to build the Theatre playhouse. Constructed in 1576 in Holywell Street in Shoreditch in partnership with his brother-in-law, John Brayne, it was the first permanent theatre in London. Peter Street, soon to complete his apprenticeship and become a freeman of the Carpenters' Company, lived close to the Burbage and Brayne families and may well have been involved. The Lord Chamberlain's Men, an acting troupe which employed William Shakespeare as an actor and playwright, was based at the Theatre. A year later, the Curtain theatre was built nearby. The Theatre was famously dismantled by Peter Street in 1598.

John Griggs

The Rose was established in 1587 by theatrical entrepreneur Philip Henslowe and John Cholmley, a grocer. It was the first purpose-built playhouse to stage any of Shakespeare's plays, and the first situated in Bankside, an area known for its bear and bull-baiting rings, gaming dens and brothels. The Rose was built by John Griggs, who had become a freeman of the Carpenters' Company in 1578. The building was a fourteen-sided polygon, about 72 feet (22 m) across and was

built of timber, with a lath and plaster exterior and thatch roof. John Griggs became master to several apprentices through the Carpenters' Company, but the most unusual was perhaps a private arrangement for Mary Henslowe, niece of his business associate Philip Henslowe. She became Griggs' apprentice on 5 June 1595 for seven years 'to learne to sowe al maner of workes & to Lerne bonelace'. It was probably Mrs Griggs who taught her, and it seems likely that at least part of her time involved creating, altering and mending the costumes used in Henslowe's productions, as a dresser. His actors were renowned for their rich, luxurious clothes.

Peter Street

Appointed Middle Warden in 1598, Street became a senior member of the Carpenters' Company but had an occasionally fractious relationship with the Company's Court. The Court minutes of June 1586 record that he '*did refuse to become one of the liverie and paied for his fine xls*' [40 shillings]. However, he did join the livery the next month and the fine was returned to him. He also lived in a Company house and garden, and February 1589 finds him arguing with the Company over the terms and conditions of his lease. Relations came to a head in July 1608 when the minutes record that Street had '*abused in words...*



at severall times' the Master and Wardens; had ignored orders to attend that day and gone away, refused to come back and was committed to prison '*there to remayne untill he submit himself according to the ordinance of this howse*'. The affair was quickly resolved, with the City's Court of Aldermen ordering his release the same day. However, a few days later the Carpenters' Clerk recorded that '*Peter Street hath not made his appearance as other assistants but hath heretofore requested to be forbourne that he might take his ease*' from September 1598, the year he became Middle

Elizabethan carpenters (detail from a wall painting in Carpenters' Hall, about 1562)

Warden. This was shortly before he dismantled the Theatre and built the Globe, clearly an extremely busy time for him professionally, but his absence must have rankled with the Company. A truce was called, as Street now '*desired to be admitted an assistant as in former time and that would make his appearance hereafter*'. The Court ordered he would become a warden but he died in May 1609 before this could happen.

The Globe

Street's most famous theatre, the Globe was the outcome of a dispute in 1597 between the owners of the Theatre, Richard and Cuthbert Burbage, and their landlord. The acting company there, the Lord Chamberlain's Men, who included Shakespeare, had been ejected and moved to the nearby Curtain theatre. The playhouse was deserted and the Burbage brothers and their partner William Smith decided to take drastic measures. To reduce costs, their chief carpenter Peter Street dismantled the Theatre during the night of 28th December 1598 with twelve workmen, almost certainly including some of his Company apprentices. Bystanders were told a refurbishment project was underway, as the timber structure was taken down and transported piecemeal to Street's waterfront property near Bridewell. The oak beams were taken across the



Detail from Joseph in the Carpenter's shop, (wall painting about 1562)

Thames to Bankside the next year and re-used for the new Globe theatre. The masonry foundations were constructed in the marshy ground under Street's direction on a site near the Rose and Swan theatres. Half the money was put up by the Burbages, and the rest by five partners, including their playwright William Shakespeare. As the Globe was a larger playhouse than the Theatre, extra timbers would have been provided by Street. With the foundations complete, the building took ten weeks to construct and then infill with lathe and plaster. The building work was completed by the end of the summer of 1599 and *Julius Caesar* may have been the first production.

The Fortune

Another theatre constructed by Street, the Fortune opened in 1600. It was financed by Philip Henslow and his son-in-law Edward Alleyn, one of the most famous actors of the time, later a businessman and founder of Dulwich College. With the opening of the Globe nearby in 1599, Henslow's smaller Rose playhouse (built by John Griggs) on Bankside faced competition. Henslowe and Alleyn decided to relocate across the Thames to Finsbury Fields, north of the City. They paid £240 for a thirty-year lease on a plot of land on Golding and Whitecross Lane. Peter Street, who had just finished building the Globe,

was hired and his contract survives. Street was paid £440 for the building work with another £80 spent on painting and expenses. The rivalry with the Globe is clear - Henslowe and Alleyn specified that the Fortune outdo the Globe in size, 'in every point for scantlings' [timber sizes]. The Fortune was three stories tall and built on a foundation of lime and brick and, uniquely for the time, square-shaped. It was however, like the first Globe, short-lived, burning down in 1621 and replaced in 1623 with brick.

Blackfriars Theatre

The first Blackfriars theatre was built in the former Blackfriars Dominican Priory for a child actors' company. The second

was James Burbage's indoor theatre. The work, almost certainly by Peter Street, began by the middle of 1596 and was nearly finished by November. Both Street and James Burbage moved down to the river to supervise the work. Street left the house he had rented for 15 years from the Carpenters' Company and leased a house, land and timber wharf in the Bridewell precinct on the west bank of the river Fleet, linked to Blackfriars by a wooden footbridge. This allowed him to bring in the prefabricated frames and timber by river from his property in Berkshire. The Blackfriars theatre, disliked by the influential local residents, was closed down by the Privy Council in November 1598.

With financial disaster looming, the Burbage brothers and Peter Street swiftly turned to dismantling the Theatre playhouse in Shoreditch and building the Globe, and it was not until 1608 that Street returned to Blackfriars to complete the conversion work. The King's Men acting company, to which Shakespeare belonged for most of his career, moved in and used the theatre as their winter playhouse, using the Globe in summer.



Shakespeare's
Globe
reconstruction
built by Liveryman
Peter McCurdy and
McCurdy & Co

Affiliations

HMS DARING

SENIOR NAVAL OFFICER, LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
CHRISTOPHER 'ARTY' SHAW RN REPORTS:

This, my second article for The Carpenters' Company Chronicle, gives me the opportunity to report on the restoration work carried out on HMS Daring over the last 12 months, and the challenges to be faced as we work hard to return her to full operational service as the premier air defender in the Fleet. Over the past year an extensive work package has been undertaken by DARING to enhance her war-fighting capabilities. This includes the recovery and restoration of on-board equipment and systems following a protracted period of extended readiness begun in 2017.

My primary focus as SNO is to meet the challenges of her intensive six-month testing and commissioning programme, planned to start in early 2025. To enable this, I will require my team of Royal Navy engineers to fully support our industrial partners in progressing DARING'S intensive regeneration period.

The first tranche of DARING'S Ship's Company is due to start joining her in the final months of this year, which will be an extremely positive step forward in returning her into service. A demanding period of sea trials commencing in autumn 2025 will see her sailing under her own power for the first time in eight years. This will be a remarkable achievement by all involved and for myself a proud moment as I relinquish SNO to the newly assigned Commanding Officer.

It is profoundly important that our affiliation with the Worshipful Company of Carpenters remains steadfast as DARING returns to the Fleet after such an extended absence. My thanks to you all for your support and interest in your ship, as highlighted by my Deputy Marine Engineer Officer, Sub Lieutenant Harry Cooke RN at your Livery Dinner last November when he represented the ship and thoroughly enjoyed the evening.



HMS DARING

4th Battalion The Ranger Regiment

CAPTAIN T LAGANA, INTELLIGENCE OFFICER, REPORTS:

4th Battalion, the Ranger Regiment (formerly Rifles) is not an airborne unit – but figuratively we might as well be, as this year our collective feet have scarcely touched the ground! In training and on operations, we continue to spearhead the development of the Land Special Operations capability. The new weapons, equipment and communications systems which I mentioned as on their way in last year's report have now been received, and our Rangers have been hard at work learning to master them.

Much like our forebears in the 95th Rifles, the Ranger Regiment is now the only unit in the Field Army equipped with an individual weapon system

– the Knight's Armament KS1 Assault Rifle. Yet there is more still to come on the horizon: the Ministry of Defence continues to place the Ranger Regiment at the forefront of its innovation efforts as we seek to prepare for the tough challenges an uncertain future may hold.

Last year I noted the substantially changed global security picture with the growing spectre of war in Eastern Europe looming. To that threat we must now add turmoil in the Levant, our battalion's designated area of operations. War rages in Gaza; Yemen-based Houthi militants continue to target international shipping in the Red Sea; and the US accuses Iranian-backed

proxies of causing the deaths of American military personnel in Jordan. We are well-placed to respond to any crisis involving UK citizens and protect the nation's strategic interests, as evidenced by our recent work in Lebanon, some of which was reported in the press last year.

Last year, we deployed over 250 personnel on operations overseas across 25 countries. One in eight countries worldwide had Rangers working in it, across every continent bar Antarctica. We are now well-established with our key allies across the Middle East.

In addition to our old friends 5th Group, US Army Special Forces, we have built a relationship

with their sister unit, 1st Group, whose area of responsibility is South East Asia. R Company, 4 RANGER recently deployed on an exercise to the jungles of Hawaii alongside our new allies. This saw us embed a team within a US Special Forces unit serving as the advance element of a US-spearheaded multinational Division.

While the beating heart of the Battalion remains the former Riflemen who successfully qualified as Rangers over the past few years, we are delighted to welcome soldiers from across the wider Army as they filter through the ever-evolving Ranger Assessment Course, bringing much-needed diversity of thought and experience. Our

selection and training processes, in addition to our continuation training which every Ranger goes through prior to deploying on operations, continue to improve. With greater resources and complexity at our disposal, alongside invaluable feedback on the realities of deployment from Rangers returning from operations, we are now delivering cutting-edge training, using methods and technologies which did not exist before – while never losing sight of the basics that make us expert soldiers.

It has been a year of remarkable highs for the Battalion – from the greatest number of personnel deployed among Ranger units to the greatest

number of military awards and commendations received. It has also been a year of increased challenge and complexity as we grow our partnerships and operational commitments against the background of resurgent chaos in the Levant.

Our Rangers could not deploy as effectively overseas without the knowledge that all is safe and secure on the home front, and that we find ourselves well supported by our loved ones, the Army and the people and institutions of the nation. We are extremely grateful for the continued support of the Worshipful Company of Carpenters, and we look forward to our continued partnership in 2024.

Chosen Man

ADJUTANT CAPTAIN TOM FARROW WRITES:



Cpl Alice Marques-Frisby at the December Court Luncheon with the Master and Lt Col Mike Devenish (right)

Corporal Alice Marques-Frisby is a highly professional and exceptionally committed corporal, who has been a driving force behind Army Special Operations Brigade's (ASOB) medical innovation and capability development. Her work to bring ASOB's medical practice in line with other NATO Special Operations Forces units through the implementation of the Tactical Combat Casualty Care course (TCCC) has been exceptional. She delivered the first accredited TCCC course, which was attended by participants from 3 Commando Brigade,

16 Air Assault Brigade and MoD A Block. She continues to support other RANGER Battalions in delivering the course, including 3 RANGER, who are running their first iteration of the course this year. Cpl Marques-Frisby has contributed to strengthening ASOB's relationship with Special Operations Combat Medical Sergeant Sustainment Course in the USA and broadening our relationship with Australian Special Operations Command. In her own time she often gives up her evenings to run the RANGER Tavern, the social heart of the Battalion.

Experimenting with new technologies in May





Range Day

The Range Day party on 21st May

LIVERYMAN NEIL CORDEREY REPORTS:

At the invitation of the Commanding Officer of the 4th Battalion, Rangers Regiment, the Master, Clerk and 12 'gun-loving' Liverymen assembled in the Sergeants' Mess at New Normandy Barracks, Aldershot for a range shooting day. The day started with meet and greet coffee with various members of the Battalion, admirably hosted by Captain Sam Gusson. There followed an outline of the day's itinerary, a 'welcome' address from Lieutenant Colonel Mike Devenish, the Commanding Officer, and words of appreciation and gratitude from the Master. This culminated with a delicious light buffet lunch.

It was then off to No. 1 Ash Range, a short drive away, for the day's action to begin. Following the important safety briefings we were split into two groups of seven — one group to commence the range shooting whilst the other toured several stands set up for briefings on roles and equipment. I was with the group shooting first, under the excellent one-to-one

tutoring of Captain Dan. We started with the Glock 9mm pistol, a side arm issued to all members of the Battalion for close-quarter protection when on operations. Bursts of single fire, rapid fire, head shots, chest and pelvis shots then ensued. I thought I was really quite good at this, with good groupings and praise from my tutor! So with a smug smile of satisfaction on my face I went into the next exercise full of confidence. The targets consisted of various differing shapes, some coloured, others plain and all randomly numbered. Basically, we had to calculate a 'maths question' that was read out, fire two shots into the answer and a further shot into another shape as instructed. Put simply, it was a disaster — with multi-tasking and heightened stress levels I had clearly peaked early.

We moved on to the SA80A3, the standard issue assault rifle. Firing from various stands at differing ranges, some targeted, others against the clock, the rounds flew into the sand bank behind. Swapping over groups,

we were then given professional and enthusiastic instruction on the roles of the sniper: ability to hit targets at 1200+m; medical team with hi-tech interactive training dummy; latest lightweight equipment with upgrades and body armour; drone display featuring three different drones; and the Javelin anti-tank missile system. For me, the use of drones — one shorter than a pencil with thermal imaging camera — was especially fascinating.



Clockwise from right: Caroline Wells, Ed Newman, James & Richard Galbraith, Neil Corderey & Hannah Bower listen intently

The day ended with drinks and canapés in the Officers' Mess, a talk on the involvement of the Gurkhas as depicted in one of the wall paintings, followed by a hearty dinner. Top-shot awards went to Richard Galbraith and Tom Gregory-Smith.

This was a truly splendid day, a special opportunity to see the professionalism and dedication of all members of the 4th Battalion at work. Many thanks indeed to Colonel Mike, Captain Sam and all those involved.

IV (Army Co-operation) Squadron RAF

COMMANDING OFFICER, WING COMMANDER JAMES BONING REPORTS:

IV(AC) Squadron have recently returned from a detachment to RAF Marham, Norfolk, where they participated in a Large Force Exercise (LFE), working with multiple aircraft types including F35 Lightning. LFEs gather together elements from across different air wings, creating a package of aircraft that enables training that tests interoperability, tactics and end-to-end process in a scenario as close to a real operation as possible.

At their most complex, such as Ex RED FLAG in North America, LFEs can involve hundreds of aircraft representing the entire range of capabilities (fighters, tankers, electronic warfare, command and control), using airspace that stretches across entire continents. As IV(AC) Sqn is a training Squadron, you will be unsurprised to learn that our LFE experience was somewhat more modest in nature, encompassing a package of eight aircraft

in a small scenario in the Norfolk region. Nevertheless, this provided an excellent opportunity for the staff and trainees to hone their skills in a different environment, operating from a less familiar base and providing support to the front line. Away from the excitement of supporting the front line, IV(AC) Sqn has continued its primary task of delivering the final stage of flying training to Combat Air pilots before they are posted to their front line aircraft type — either Typhoon or Lightning. Once converted to their front line aircraft type, they become the tip of the spear — protecting UK sovereign airspace whilst on Quick Reaction Alert and serving on Operations abroad.



Hawk T2 aircraft on detachment in June

Champion Pilot



Major Glenn Scott (left) with **the Master** at the July Court Lunch, accompanied by **Wing Commander James Boning**

Major Glenn Scott enrolled as a pilot in the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1991. During his career he has served in Winnipeg, Cold Lake, Bagotville and Moose Jaw, flying the CC/CT142 Dash8, CF18 Hornet, CT155 Hawk and Hawk T2. Major Scott has been employed as a Fighter Pilot Lead, a Multi-Engine VIP Transport Training Captain, a Standards Check Pilot, a Senior Qualified Flying Instructor and

the Exercise Director of MAPLE FLAG. He has participated in Operation ABACUS in Canada, Operation ATHENA in Afghanistan as well as Operation NORTHERN DENIAL and Operation NOBAL EAGLE, both being North American Air Defence operations in Canada. Glenn has received the General Campaign Star (International Security Assistance Force) South West Asia medal, the

Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal, the Canadian Forces' Decoration (CD) and bar from the Government of Canada and the Fe en la Cause Medalla Military medal from the Republic of Colombia. Major Scott is currently serving as a Tactical Weapons Qualified Flying Instructor on Exchange at Royal Air Force Valley in North Wales.

Pastimes

Tennis

Inter-Livery Tennis

LIVERYMAN JANE EVELEGH-HALL REPORTS:

This year's Inter-Livery Tennis, organised by the Worshipful Company of Feltmakers, was a great success. The Competition was held on 13th September 2023 at the Queen's Club as usual. We were all pleased that the sun was shining and thankfully temperatures had dropped from the heat wave of the previous week. The Competition has grown in popularity since it started in 1995. This year the demand was so high that only one Carpenters' pair was permitted to enter and unfortunately Martin and Helen Ackland were not able to join us.

knocked out 6-3. To soften this defeat, the pair went on to win the Tournament.

After an exciting but tiring day, Queen's Club served a delicious dinner, allowing us to refuel and have excellent conversation with members of other Livery Companies. We would like to thank the Worshipful Company of Feltmakers for organising the event and the Carpenters' Company whom we were proud to represent.

There were in total 24 entries from 19 Companies, including one international pair from Zurich, affiliated with the Feltmakers'. Rupert Evelegh and I started the day in a round-robin, with six groups playing four pairs each. We had a good start, only dropping one game to the Saddlers' and Feltmakers' but had a frustratingly close defeat by the Barbers' who went onto the final. With scores added up, we qualified for the Championship play-off (top eight) as highest ranked runners-up. Once again, we had hard opposition playing the World Traders' in the Quarter Finals and were sadly



Liverymen Rupert Evelegh and Jane Evelegh-Hall

Livery Tennis

LIVERYMAN GEOFF RHODES WRITES:

On 16th July, the annual gathering of livery tennis enthusiasts assembled for the Carpenters' Company Tennis evening, in the impeccably maintained grounds of Hurlingham Club, West London. Play began in bright sunshine, but ten minutes later the heavens opened and both courts were flooded by a sudden deluge of rain lasting some 20 minutes, forcing us to take shelter in a nearby hut wondering if we would ever resume play. Thanks to the sterling efforts of Hugh Felton and Ben Brading in dutifully

sweeping both courts with the mechanical sweeper, we were able to banish thoughts of an early pint and restart once the rain stopped. All players went on to play with a mix of tennis partners and by the end everyone had enjoyed some quality time on court.

The competitive part of the evening over, we were joined by the Clerk for an excellent dinner in the Club's Harness Room restaurant. There we reflected on the late Russell Hutchons's visionary foresight in establishing this enjoyable

event so many years ago. Unusually, the magnificent Hutchons trophy was not presented for an individual's outstanding performance this year but to Past Master Peter Birts in recognition of his organisational skills over many years in pulling the evening together at Hurlingham Club for everyone's enjoyment. This event continues to be popular among the livery and this year's participants are grateful to the Company for supporting it once again.



Left to right: Philip Brading, Rupert Eveleigh, Clerk Tim Gregson presenting the Hutchons Trophy to Peter Birts, Hugh Felton and Angi Birts

Sailing

THE JUNIOR WARDEN JAMES PRESTON REPORTS:



The Crew (left to right) James Preston, William Avery, Richard Hamilton, Richard Galbraith, Ed Barnes-Yallowley, James Galbraith and Will Barnes-Yallowley

The Inter-Livery Regatta, organised by The City Livery Yacht Club, was held on 18th May 2024. It was remarkable in many ways. Notably, there was a record number of entries, with 30 boats participating in the event and 24 taking part in the racing, representing 18 different Livery Companies. This was also a year where the incumbent Lord Mayor, Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli, a passionate sailor, found time in his busy diary to attend the Regatta. More about that later.

The Carpenters' boat for

the weekend, 'Baldur', was skippered by the very able yachtsman Liveryman William Avery, also Vice Commodore of the City Livery Yacht Club. Carpenters' provided a crew of six, with varying degrees of experience, and there was an impressive 50 year age range amongst those on board. The weekend started with a sandwich lunch on Baldur and, following our safety briefing, we motored down the Solent into Southampton Water. There we encountered an onshore breeze slightly stronger than forecast, providing the opportunity for

plenty of tacking practice, the comparative novice Richard Hamilton calmly taking the helm as we dodged numerous buoys and vessels on our passage to Cowes. We arrived at Cowes Yacht Haven to find it buzzing with Livery boats, berthing alongside a yacht crewed by our friends from The Sadler's Company and sporting two new battle flags bearing the Carpenters' crest rigged high on the forestay.

The Inter-Livery Regatta is an especially social occasion and the first event was on

Friday evening with drinks and a buffet supper hosted at the Royal London Yacht Club. It is tempting to say that there was much competitive raillery during the evening, but the reality was more concern about the very light airs forecast for the next day's racing. As expected, we woke on Saturday morning to glassy calm waters. There would be no racing at the planned start time, but the position would be reviewed every hour. The racing was organised by the Island Sailing Club whose race officers are very skilled at interpreting the idiosyncrasies of the Solent winds. There was palpable relief when the Race Officer announced at 11am that the racing was on, though due to the uncertain winds it was to be a fairly short round-the-cans course.

The delay with the start time presented quite a challenge on the start line. Judging speed over the ground wasn't easy, with a strong ebb tide and a very gentle breeze from the

southwest. Our assessment turned out to be slightly cautious, giving us a slight disadvantage for the first leg. The crew soon got into an efficient rhythm with Richard and James Galbraith proving to be an effective team grinding the headsail winches. The light airs meant all the crew moved onto the foredeck on the downwind runs, save for Ed Barnes-Yallowley who precariously pushed out the clew of the small but perfectly formed jib to catch every inch of wind. Meanwhile, skipper William Avery demonstrated his skilfulness in single-handed, down-wind sailing. By the end of the first race we had moved up the field, finishing in sixth position out of twelve boats. With slightly increased winds for the second race, the crew quickly settled into their roles of trimming and grinding and we finished in a respectable fifth place on corrected time.

Back at Cowes the crew were enjoying a relaxing beer in the cockpit when we were honoured

by a surprise visit from the Lord Mayor. As he stepped aboard Baldur he seemed immediately at home and spent some time talking enthusiastically about the event while the Lady Mayoress looked anxiously at her watch. On Saturday evening we attended the social highlight of the weekend - the Regatta Dinner - held in the magnificent surroundings of the Royal Yacht Squadron at Cowes Castle attended by over 160 diners. The end-of-dinner speeches began with Race Officer Peter Chugg providing a commentary of the races with his customary wit, followed by the Lord Mayor, who spoke with great passion about sailing. Plainly not a huge fan of boats without sails, he gently chided the Carpenters' Company for not competing in a wooden boat!

This was another very enjoyable weekend of sailing and socialising, with fellow Carpenters and other Livery companies, all taking place in wonderful surroundings.



Left to right: Lord Mayor Michael Mainelli, William Avery, James Preston, Will Barnes-Yallowley and Richard Galbraith

Inter-Livery Ski-ing

LIVERYMAN GEOFF RHODES WRITES:

The Inter-Livery Ski Competition is probably the largest sporting event of the livery year. Organised by the Ironmongers' Company, this year's event took place between 24th and 26th January in Morzine, Haute Savoie, France. Thirty Companies sent race participants, amounting to nearly 200 competitors and some 350 in attendance.

Racing was held over two days, beginning with a qualifying slalom on the Thursday, determining the starting order for the main race, and a giant slalom on the Friday. Conditions earlier in the week were excellent, but as the week progressed rising temperatures led to less-than-perfect skiing conditions on both days, with soft melting snow.

Carpenters' race team did well, on a straight calculation coming 17th out of 30, but when age adjusted (by the Worshipful Company of Actuaries), improving significantly to 9th position. The team of Stephen Samuel (our Chef du Ski), Richard Samuel, Lizzie Haynes, Mark Horn, Jon Eveleigh, Sean Sutcliffe and myself, enjoyed great camaraderie and were ably supported by Richard and Louise Galbraith, who encouraged us all the way.

Ski-ing can be a hazardous sport and injuries are common. This year the Port du Soleil Helicopter Services were called into action when the writer fell



Left to right: Geoff Rhodes, Louise Galbraith, Mark Horn, Lizzie Haynes, Richard Galbraith, Richard Samuel, Sean Sutcliffe, John Eveleigh and Stephen Samuel

after negotiating the infamous 'Swiss Wall' descent whilst training for the main event, happily sustaining only minor injuries. The week ended in a dinner and prize-giving event at Hotel Club Le Crêt, Morzine. Full details of the event can be found at www.liveryskiing.com.

The charity supported by this year's event was SNOW CAMP, a brilliant Snowsports Youth Charity committed to bringing

about social change for young people. The extreme shift from inner-city estates to the mountain environment creates an enthusiastic response in young people, widening their horizons and lifting aspirations. This year more than £57k was raised by everyone involved.

Golf

Livery Golf

LIVERYMAN RICHARD SAMUEL REPORTS:

For as long as I have been lucky enough to participate, The Royal Automobile Club in Epsom has hosted the Carpenters' annual Company Golf Day. Located in Woodcote Park right next to Epsom Racecourse, the Club's Old Course is a big part of the draw. The downland course was designed by the celebrated golf architect Herbert Fowler, best known for creating nearby Walton Heath. Its fairways have seen over a century of golfing skills and misdemeanours.

On Thursday 11th April 2024, Liverymen Sandy Macqueen, Callum Macqueen, Harry Neal, Marcus Dill, Geoff Rhodes, Ben Brading, Richard Lester and the writer were joined

by Captain Rob Parsons and Captain Kris Morgans from Rangers Regiment.

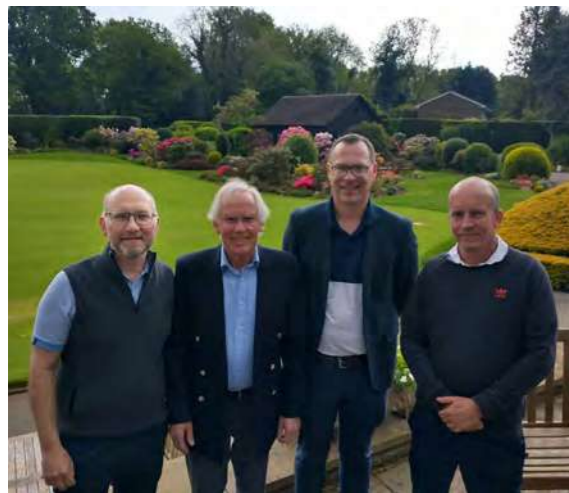
The weather was fine and the course in excellent condition; a fabulous morning of competitive golf was enjoyed by all. After the cards had been collected the team readied for luncheon in the Club's '19th Hole', where we were joined by Past Master Martin Samuel and his wife Rosemary. The Past Master welcomed our guests and thanked everyone for participating in a successful event, before turning to congratulate Ben Brading on winning the day's competition with a Stableford score of 35 points.



Liveryman **Ben Brading** (left) is presented with the Company's golf trophy by **Past Master Martin Samuel**

Inter-Livery Golf (Prince Arthur Cup)

LIVERYMAN ROWAN MONTAGUE-SMITH REPORTS:



Our team comprised of Geoff Rhodes, Marcus Dill, Richard Samuel and myself. We had a very pleasurable day at Walton Heath on 16th May. The weather was kind and we all enjoyed the day immensely. Unfortunately, our combined golf wasn't quite up to the level of most other

Left to right: **Richard Samuel, Geoff Rhodes, Rowan Montague-Smith and Marcus Dill**

Livery teams: we scored an overall total of 24, which put us about 30th out of the 40 teams. It's still a real privilege to be able to play at the Prince Arthur Cup event and we much appreciate the Carpenters' Company's continued support in making it happen.

Shooting

Livery Clay Shoot

LIVERYMAN WILL BARNES-YALLOWLEY REPORTS:



The shooting party in May

On 26th April, 16 Carpenters' Liverymen and two officers from 4th Battalion, the Ranger Regiment assembled at West London Shooting School. We were divided into teams named after mediaeval carpenters' timber frame building tools: Augers, Brace & Bits, etc.

Carpenters have been meeting at the West London Shooting School since 1995. Every year, we cannot help but remember our companions of those early days, John Hestor, Mike Lilly, Robin Birts, Paul Stevenson,

Hugh Barnes-Yallowley and Morton Neal. The target of our clay pigeon competition is to encourage fellowship, healthy competition and improve our aim. The bonhomie is multiplied by plentiful and delicious food, with breakfast baps, elevenses and then lunch. The shooting is fast and frantic, especially the 'Flush' when teams shoot together for simulated rabbits, teal and pheasant. The joint winners of the Rifles Cup from the Carpenters' were Bruce Hodgson and Harry

Neal. One of the Rangers' officers was a crack shot and despite every effort to curb his accuracy, only let two clays pass. He won top Guest Prize.

All attendees commented on the fun of the day, regarding it as one of the highlights of the year. We are very grateful to the Carpenters' Company and in particular the Clerk's PA Caroline Stevens, for administering the event.

Inter-Livery Clay Shoot

LIVERYMAN CHARLIE BIRTS REPORTS:

Liverymen Richard Mitton, Will Barnes-Yallowley, Harry Neal and Charlie Birts represented the Carpenters' Company on the second day of the Annual Inter-Livery Clay Shoot on Thursday, 16th May. The event was held over two days at the West London Shooting School, with 103 teams competing. This is a very rewarding event for Livery clay shooters of all abilities to practise, compete and chat in a relaxed environment with fellow Liverymen. It is also an opportunity to meet members of over 50 other Livery Companies, ranging from the Worshipful Company of Actuaries to the Worshipful Company of World Traders. This annual event, which has been taking place since 1993, raises funds for charities

nominated by the winning teams and includes a donation to the Lord Mayor's charity.

The Carpenters' four-man team this year comprised of three Inter-Livery Clay Shoot veterans and the next generation of the Carpenters' Neal family shooting dynasty. Richard Mitton's contribution might be particularly remembered for his good-natured critique of the trigger mechanisms on the West London Shooting School guns on offer, but he still shot well. Will Barnes-Yallowley shot with impressive consistency throughout a long morning of 12 stands and kept morale high. I started strongly but my performance stuttered mid-morning as the bacon roll and early coffees wore off.

Harry Neal was undaunted by the wealth of experience and wisdom of age in his team. He combined respectful sledging when supporting, with an impressive performance gun in hand, finishing with the leading individual Carpenters' score, a hair's breadth ahead of Will Barnes-Yallowley. In the final count, Carpenters' team finished 49th out of 103 teams overall, while in the 'Flush' Competition we came a very creditable 26th. The overall winners were the Watermen & Lightermen A team, with Gunmakers' C team second and the Grocers' A team taking third place. Thank you to the Carpenters' Company for again organising, and generously funding, a team to take part in this very enjoyable day's shooting and hog roast lunch.



Left to right:
Charlie Birts, Will Barnes-Yallowley, Richard Mitton and Harry Neal

Inter-Livery Rifle Shooting Competition

LIVERYMAN NICK THORNTON REPORTS:

After the squad rotation experiments of 2023, this year's team had a more settled feel. Buoyed by the return of our Captain - Bruce 'The Maestro' Hodgson - and supported by the brace of Nicks (Gutfreund and Thornton), we started the day with discussion on tactics and game plans over bacon buns and coffee. First up was the Running Boar, always something of a hit and miss (quite literally in most cases) for the team. This year proved no different - decent scores but nothing to write home about. We did then register a good performance on a new event for this year - the 'ring the bell' air rifle shoot, which involves trying to fire a pellet through a tiny hole in the target to ring a bell and gain bonus points. It was a fun event and one where Bruce laid down a marker for the rest of the day. We then headed to a traditionally strong event - the black powder .45 pistol shoot - very John Wayne! With two scores of 117 out of 120 and another of 108, we knew we'd set the pace for the rest of the field, and we followed up with a solid showing with the .22 rifle.

Post-lunch was the big one - the 1000 yard 7.62mm target rifle event. It is quite rightly the blue riband event of the day and our team has been in amongst the prizes for the last few years. Bruce continued his strong start, well supported by Nick G, with Nick T slightly off colour compared with previous years. Not bad, but we left the range somewhat unconvinced we'd done enough. All that was left after that was the



Left to right:
Nick Thornton and Bruce Hodgson at Bisley on 7th June

5.56mm 300m 'sniper' shoot. Nick T redeemed himself with a 97, with decent scores from both the others. Then it was back to the Clubhouse and the wait for the scores. The format is that each individual and each team can only win one event. We were delighted that Bruce received the pistol prize but intrigued that the team pistol went to another company - we knew we'd done well so our hopes were raised. Rightly so, as we won the target rifle event (again), and were narrowly beaten into second place for the overall team win. On an individual basis Bruce excelled, finishing 4th overall.

As ever, the event was superbly hosted by the RAF Target Rifle Association, and we enjoyed firing the Baker Rifle with the 95th re-enactors. It really is a tremendous day, and a great privilege to represent the Company in such convivial surroundings. Our thanks, as always to the Master and the Court for enabling our participation.

Members interested in taking part in the sporting events should email the Clerk's PA Caroline Stevens at caroline@carpentersco.com, all are welcome.

Company Business

Throgmorton Avenue and Great Winchester Street

PAST MASTER MICHAEL MORRISON, CHAIRMAN OF THE HALL DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE, REPORTS:



This is the third edition of the Chronicle to carry an article about the proposed redevelopment of the Hall and adjacent properties, which tells you something about the complexities of the planning process. However, behind the scenes things have been moving and by the time this article goes to print we hope to have submitted an application for Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent. The premises under question are listed in the illustrations below.

The major part of the scheme will be the development of new Grade A office space inside the Throgmorton Avenue (TA) buildings. This will encompass part of No 3 TA as well as the

remaining buildings owned by the Company between Nos 5 and 17 TA. The existing buildings, which were used as offices by Deutsche Bank, are a higgledypiggledy mix of knocked-through houses, with different floor levels and bridges across light wells. Our aim is to retain the façade and redevelop internally with single open floor plates. Great Winchester Street (GWS) will provide a splendid front entrance to the new office space but the development is made more complicated by the listing of some of the interiors. Nonetheless the majority of the space can be remodelled to provide a new atrium space with a single core of lifts and stairs serving the whole redevelopment.

The work to Carpenters' Hall will incorporate a slice of No 3 TA. This will allow us to create better access to the Hall from the Avenue and will allow for a new foyer, stair and lift core for the commercial office space above the Hall. Our intention is to team up with a developer who will be granted a long lease of the GWS and TA premises, whilst ensuring that the Hall itself and the office space above it remains firmly under our complete control. We will retain the freeholds throughout.

We hope that the three new floors of offices above the Hall will be constructed of cross-laminated timber, without any need for significant strengthening of the foundations. It is now sixty-five years since the

re-opening in 1960. A good deal of the cost of the work to the Hall is the replacement and improvement of all the mechanical and electrical systems. We should end up with a building that not only works better but is much more energy efficient. Whilst the principal spaces will not change greatly in appearance, the secondary spaces will be greatly improved. Our office space on the upper floor will also be enhanced, including a larger committee room, and potential access to the terrace above the Dining Hall. The staff areas in the basement will be greatly improved, with proper facilities for both our own staff and caterers.

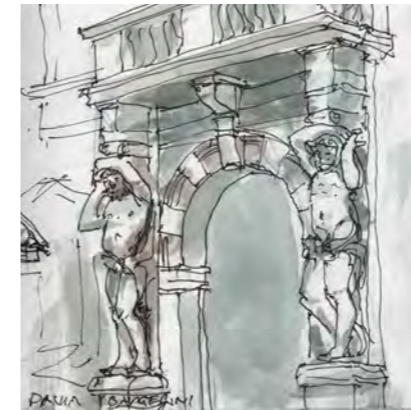
One of the requirements of the City is that any scheme granted planning permission must provide enhanced public benefit. We believe the major public benefit

of our scheme is to provide an enhanced income stream, which will allow for ongoing support and necessary expansion of the Building Crafts College. The City Planners will also require direct public benefit in the City itself. As a result we are proposing to create a 'Knowledge Suite' on the first floor of the retained portion of No 3 TA. This space will allow us to consolidate our library and archive and put some of our 'treasures' on permanent display. The space will be overseen by our Archivist, with researchers and any interested member of the general public able to book a visit. Liverymen will also be able to use these facilities of course. The intention is to foster a wider understanding of the Livery movement and the significance of its charitable giving. We feel this is also an opportunity to publicise the work of the Building Crafts College.

We hope we will be able to submit our planning application in September – and receive a determination before the end of the year. We will aim to appoint a development partner in early 2025, allowing giving them a year to complete their own detailed design of the scheme. Therefore we anticipate using the Hall until the end of 2025, with the first three or four months of 2026 taken up with moving out of the Hall and into temporary office premises nearby. An optimist might suggest that we will be back in the Hall for our November Livery Dinner in 2028. A pessimist might suggest 2029. But in the meantime we will have the opportunity to see the inside of a number of other Livery Halls, as we hire them for our various events during our three years 'without a Hall'.

Company Visit to Bologna

THE MASTER DR ALLEN ZIMBLER WRITES:



On the weekend of the 10th of May, Caryn and I welcomed an appreciative group of Carpenters and their partners to Bologna for our annual Company Visit. Some 60 of us had the pleasure of visiting this beautiful city, many for the first time. Our visit started on the Friday evening with a drinks and canapés reception on the lovely rooftop terrace of Bologna's Johns Hopkins University. It was wonderful to meet up with fellow Carpenters and their partners again, a sense of excitement shared between all of us at the thought of exploring a city which deserves so much attention.

Our guided walking tour on Saturday morning began in the

Piazza Maggiore, the main medieval square of the city. We assembled in front of the Basilica of San Petronio, next to the famous 16th century sculpture of Neptune by Giambologna that adorns the Square. Following that we made our way to the original site of the university, the Archiginnasio, where we were able to inspect the thousands of family crests inscribed on walls and ceilings of students who had studied at the university over the centuries, including famous historical figures such as Dante Alighieri, Petrarch, Popes Alexander VI and Gregory XIII, Copernicus and Marconi.

A highlight of our visit to the Archiginnasio was entering the



famous lecture theatre lined with antiquarian books, representing different subjects of study and affording an enticing glimpse of the university's magnificent ancient library. Even more exciting was the talk given to our party alone in the extraordinary 17th century Anatomical Theatre - a dissection theatre fashioned from wood into a tiered square of wooden benches. These surrounded a white marble plinth on which corpses would be dissected under the instructions of a professor seated in a raised gallery using a long stick as a pointer. A study in exquisite woodwork, the anatomical theatre boasts wooden carvings of torsos in various attitudes, and of famous doctors who have contributed to the advancement of anatomical dissection and surgery.

From there we moved to the Piazza of San Stefano to explore the remarkable Sette Chiese, (or Basilica of San Stefano), an architecturally complex cluster of seven merged churches that represent the stages of evolution of Christian worship in Bologna from the earliest times up until the 21st Century. The final part of

our three hour walk brought us back to the Piazza Maggiore and into the magnificent Basilica of San Petronio, a huge church begun in 1390, which contains 22 side chapels. One of these is decorated with a controversial depiction of Dante's Hell, and hosts an inlaid 66.8 metre meridian line in its floor, laid down by the astronomer Giovanni Domenico Cassini in 1655.

An afternoon at leisure allowed us to drift off in smaller groups to the various tavernas, restaurants and bars dotted all over the city. Saturday evening's dinner was held at Ristorante Donatello, a 120 year-old and traditional family-run Bolognese restaurant, famous for its traditional meat-based cuisine. Its walls were resplendent with frescoes and hundreds of photographs of famous previous patrons and glitterati.

Our sincere thanks to the Company and in particular the Clerk for organising such an enjoyable visit and enabling so many of us to learn about this ancient but relatively undiscovered city.

On the rooftop terrace of John Hopkins University



Sketches by Past Master Giles Downes

Liverymen and Freemen's Reception

THE MASTER DR ALLEN ZIMBLER REPORTS:

On 11th February Spanish tapas and wines were served at our Freemen's reception at the Hall, which was transformed by our ever-resourceful Hall staff into a venue for an espectáculo flamenco - an evening of traditional flamenco singing and dance, with widely-acclaimed performers brought from Seville to join a group of London-based performers. Flamenco is a deeply emotive, expressive art form based on the folkloric music traditions of southern Spain. It developed within the Gitano or Roma subculture of Andalucia, emerging chiefly from Indo-Pakistani roots in the early 15th Century and being infused with early Catholic, Muslim and Sephardic North African influences. It has become a quintessential Spanish cultural manifestation, expressing profound sorrow and

exuberant joy, through a dialogue of emotion and rhythm, reflecting the struggles and triumphs over adversity of its people. We were extremely lucky on the night to have a unique mix of artists assembled by Anita La Maltesa, a singer/dancer with Maltese origins who started dancing at the age of five, qualified as a dance teacher in the UK by the age of 15, and then learnt flamenco in Seville. She performed at the Royal Albert Hall in 1999, has appeared at the Royal Opera House in Carmen and been filmed at the BBC. Anita's performers included the renowned flamenco guitarist Ramon Ruiz, two guest dancers, a singer and a percussionist. It was a stirring and captivating evening, which had our normally sedate Carpenters on their feet, clapping enthusiastically in time to the intricate rhythms.



Left to right: Anita La Maltesa, Jairo Barrull and Rebecca Ortega



The Master thanks the artists

Guest of Honour's Response at the Summer Dinner

AN ABRIDGED VERSION OF THE SPEECH BY HENDRIK DU TOIT¹
ON 12TH JUNE

The theme of the speech was that society cannot progress unless its leaders maintain respect for traditional values when pursuing success. While rights are essential to a free society, they should not be mistaken for entitlement, and citizens have a duty to spell out the responsibility that goes with freedom. After citing the sacrifices of D-Day and the battle for Normandy, he reminded his audience that the ordinary men who took part in those conflicts were driven by patriotism and their willingness to defend an order that they believed in. He continued:

"Today our values are under threat again, so is our way of life. From outside as well as from within. How will future generations judge us, as privileged leaders of our society, in years to come? If you only remember one idea from this speech, it should be that we have a common responsibility to articulate and defend the values on which this society, which gave us so much, has been built. These values form the foundation of true progress. We have a responsibility to do our bit to help shape a better future.

We are only temporary stewards of our society and the world.... That is what our lives should be about. "Today our freedom is under attack from various sides. The fundamentalism within our own borders is growing. Rising antisemitism and despicable vitriol are spread on social media. So-called 'safe spaces' at our universities where civilised and true debate has less and less space. Putin's Russia is increasingly menacing. Via the internet there are ongoing efforts to radicalise large parts of our population. We need to actively guard and defend our freedom before it is too late.... "It is also our civic duty to engage and wrestle with the big issues of our day. I call them the new battle fronts. Firstly planet. Climate change and all its consequences are upon us. Nature is being depleted and smothered in plastic. Rome is burning and society is fiddling. Sustainability is not a woke invention, it is the existential battle of our time for humanity. The inevitable re-set in the way we do business will create enormous opportunity for the entrepreneurial and bold among us.

"The second is technology, broadly defined. The fourth industrial revolution is upon us and accelerated by rapid progress in AI. The fact that the value of chipmaker, Nvidia, has recently eclipsed that of Apple confirms this. We need to extract as much benefit as possible for our societies from these technological advances, but we need to be thoughtful about the unintended consequences. At the very least we should ask questions. Technology should serve society not the other way round.... "You, in your capacity as Carpenters, but also leaders in the City and other occupations, are guardians of ancient traditions and values forged over generations. The Carpenters have contributed to and actually constructed a better world for over 700 years. The City has played its remarkable role as a facilitator of commerce and innovation for many centuries. My contention is that the enduring success of this Country, and specifically the City, imparts its respect for ancient traditions and core values while relentlessly in pursuit of progress. This task never ends..."

¹ Hendrik du Toit is the grandson of Field Marshal Jan Christiaan Smut's first cousin. Jan Smuts was made an Honorary Freeman of the Carpenter's Company in 1941.

Admissions

TO THE LIVERY

On 6th December 2023

Tobias Preston

In his current job, Toby is a robotics engineer, designing and manufacturing robots and robotic systems for use in the field of aircraft inspections. He was educated at King's College School Wimbledon and the University of Southampton, taking a Master's Degree of Engineering (MEng) in Mechanical Engineering with Mechatronics. He lives in The Hague and his interests include squash, sailing, cycling and rowing. His family have a long association with the Carpenters' Company and his father is the Middle Warden, James Preston.

Andrew Waugh

Andrew is a founding director of Waugh Thistleton Architects, a practice specialising in low carbon construction and internationally renowned for its extensive research and work using timber. When he can, Andrew teaches and lectures on sustainability, timber construction and the future of architecture, emphasizing the need for change to mitigate the climate crisis. Andrew has led the practice on award winning schemes from synagogues to social housing, offices and public buildings and was responsible for the design and delivery of Murray Grove, a housing tower in Hackney which spearheaded the introduction of cross-laminated timber (CLT) in the UK and tall timber construction. His awards include the RIBA President's Award for Research, a Stirling Prize nomination in 2018 and the



UK Practice of the Year award for 2023. The 2023 Wood Awards Commercial & Leisure category was won by Waugh Thistleton for their timber office complex, the Black & White Building. Andrew is also a Trustee of Shoreditch Trust, which works with local residents to improve health and wellbeing in the community.

John Campbell

John trained as an architect at Robert Gordon's University, Aberdeen, and Heriot-Watt University/Edinburgh College of Art. He was awarded the Carpenters' Company Exchange Scholarship with the Carpenters' Company of the City and County of Philadelphia in 1985, and is also a member of the Company. After completing his scholarship, he settled in Philadelphia and worked for the architectural practice Francis Cauffman Architects, latterly as President,

until his retirement and return to the UK. John's area of expertise was focused on the workplace, leading clients on the journey of workplace transformation in the ever-changing world of work. John has been an active member of the Philadelphia architectural community and is a Past President of the Philadelphia chapter of the American Institute of Architects. He is married with two daughters and his interests include orienteering, running, cycling, walking, photography, sketching and travel.

Left to right
John Campbell,
Andrew Waugh
and Tobias Preston

TO THE FREEDOM

On 3rd July 2024

**Naomi Hawkes**

Naomi studied law at Downing College, Cambridge and is a London-based barrister specialising in property law, including housing law. She was appointed a part-time Judge of the Residential Property Division of the Property Chamber in 2011. In 2018 she became a part-time Judge of the War Pensions and Armed Forces Compensation Chamber and of the Land Registration Division of the Property Chamber. She was appointed a Recorder (part-time Circuit Judge) in 2022. Naomi is also a Civil and Commercial Mediator, a Yoga teacher and member of the British Wheel of Yoga.

On 4th October 2023

From the Building Crafts College, in recognition of seven years service

**Paul Stringer**

Paul is the Site Manager at the Building Craft College, responsible for the maintenance of the campus facilities on both the College sites and their landscaping requirements. Formerly a Mitsubishi Engineer, Paul is married to Louise and they have five children. He has various sporting interests and is the player manager for Custom House United football club in the Corinthian Football League and is involved with charity boxing events.

On 6th March 2024

From the Building Crafts College, in recognition of seven years service

**Robin Clifton**

Robin is Head of Fine Woodwork at the Building Crafts College. He joined the College in December 2015 after running his own furniture-making business and teaching at London Metropolitan University and Bromley College.

Since arriving at the College, Robin has developed the Fine Furniture Design & Making course to give emphasis to the development of solid hand skills, the importance of timber selection, working accurately and producing high quality items, as well as developing new short and part-time courses.

**Funda Ozturk**

Funda joined the Building Crafts College in 2016 and is the Tutor for GCSE and Functional Skills Maths. Adept at taking into account learners' needs and trade specific areas, she has also taken on some departmental and data management duties. Funda has a BSc in Civil Engineering and was previously employed as a site and project manager in construction before taking a diploma in Education, Maths at the Institute of Education, University College London. She is married to Mustafa and has two adult children, enjoys cycling and is a keen cook.

On 3rd April 2024

**Clive Aslet**

Clive is a writer, publisher and visiting Professor of Architecture at the University of Cambridge and founder of the publisher Triglyph Books. He was Editor of *Country Life* for 13 years and has published over 30 books, including *The Last Country Houses* in 1982 and *The Story of the Country House* in 2021 for Yale University Press. He continues to contribute to *Country Life*, as well as writing for the *Times*, the *Daily Telegraph* and other media particularly on architecture, the countryside and British life.

On 1st May 2024

**Bernard Donoghue**

Bernard has been Director of the UK-wide Association of Leading Visitor Attractions since 2011, and is one of the foremost voices in the country's tourism and heritage sector. He was head of Government and Public Affairs for VisitBritain, the national tourist board, between 1997 and 2010. Bernard is also an advisor to the Mayor of London and the National Trust, and is Chair of the London Tourist Board. In June 2022 he was awarded the OBE in HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Birthday Honours for services to tourism and to culture.

**Jerome Bradley**

Jerome is a co-founder and Managing Director of Beau Bespoke Ltd, a company specialising in the building and refurbishment of high-quality private residential projects in London and the South East. He has worked with the Building Crafts College to support the careers progression and mentoring of students, and in particular has led fundraising with the Barry Breed Fund, established to support students at the College in their early career paths.

On 5th June 2024

**Christopher Holt**

Chris founded CHC Global, a risk and insurance company based in the City of London in 2016. He has worked in insurance since leaving the Royal Engineers in 2005. In 2004 he was appointed MBE for services to Bomb Disposal and is a committed supporter of veteran's charities, serving as the Vice Chairman of the Lloyd's and City of London branch of The Royal British Legion.

On 3rd July 2024

**Edward Rice**

Edward is the Director of Rice Projects Ltd, a construction management company he founded in 2020 specializing in individual, bespoke houses. Previously he worked as a site manager and as a carpenter and shipwright, which included work at the Green Oak Carpentry Company and wooden boatbuilders Butler & Co. Edward has an MSc in Applied Marine Science from the University of Plymouth and is a keen sailor. He has a particular interest in the building and restoration of wooden boats, including one he has restored and owns.

Profiles

THE MASTER 2024

Dr Loyd Grossman



Courtesy The Royal Parks

Dr Loyd Grossman was born in Boston in 1950. Having graduated from Boston University (BA), he moved to England in order to attend the London School of Economics (MSc Econ). Subsequently he gained an MPhil and PhD in the History of Art from Magdalene College, Cambridge. Whilst an undergraduate in London, he began writing for various music publications, including Rolling Stone. After starting a full-time career in journalism with *Harpers & Queen* and the *Sunday Times*, he was diverted into television

where as a writer, presenter or deviser he was involved in a wide range of programmes, including *MasterChef*, *Through the Keyhole*, *Behind the Headlines*, *History of British Sculpture*, *Loyd on Location* and *Build Britain*. He also wrote and presented a series, *Composers at Home*, for Radio 3. Loyd's knowledge of and fascination with food led him to create his own brand in 1995, which became Britain's most successful new premium food brand. His lifelong interest in history, the arts and heritage has involved him in a number of organisations and commissions, including the Museums and Galleries Commission, English Heritage, the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England, among many others. Loyd was Chairman of The Royal Parks from 2016-2024, Chairman of Gresham College from 2019-2024, Chairman of the Heritage Alliance from 2009-2018, Chairman of the Churches Conservation Trust from 2007-2016, Chairman of the University for the Creative Arts from 2008-2012, Deputy Chairman of The Royal Drawing School from 2014-2017, a Governor of The British Institute of Florence and a member of the Court of Governors of the LSE from 1996-2009, and is now an Emeritus Governor of the LSE. He is the Chair elect of the Royal Society of Arts. Loyd is a Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Arts Scholars, an Honorary Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Glaziers, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine and a Fellow

of the Royal Historical Society. Loyd was appointed OBE in 2003. He has honorary doctorates from the Universities of Chester, Lincoln and Essex for his work in cultural heritage and tourism. In June 2015 he was appointed CBE in recognition of his services to heritage. Loyd is a keen guitarist and he and his band – The New Forbidden – made their eighth appearance at Glastonbury in June 2019. Apart from music, his hobbies include country pursuits, racket sports, boxing and the care and maintenance of four Wire Haired Dachshunds. He is married to the writer and actress Melissa Knatchbull with whom he shares three daughters.

THE MIDDLE WARDEN 2024

James Preston



James Preston was made a Liveryman in 1983 when he was 22 years old. He was born into a family that has been heavily involved with the Carpenters' Company for nearly 250 years. His late father, Christopher Preston, was appointed Senior Warden in 1999 in the footsteps of a direct paternal line that included three Masters of the Company. James is a Chartered Surveyor, and after studying at the University of The West of England, he worked on the consultancy side of commercial property management and asset management for over 40 years. Based in the West End, he worked at Bernard Thorpe and then Savills before being made a partner at specialist agency Joiner Cummings. In 2004 he co-founded James Boatman Chartered Surveyors, a successful and highly focused boutique agency, with clients including global fund managers, and the UK's largest private property company. Over the four decades he has been a Liveryman, James has served for long periods on committees including The Carpenters' and Docklands Centre (Stratford) and the Rustington Convalescent Home Committee of Management where he took on the role of Surveyor to the Home. He has served as a Donation Governor at Christ's Hospital for the Company since 2009. James is also an enthusiastic carpenter in the craft sense, practising (and occasionally perfecting) various facets of woodworking from his micro workshop at home. He also has a passion for adventurous sailing. He spent a season cruising the west coast of Ireland before basing his sailing in the Western Isles for the past five years. In any remaining spare time, James plays tennis with little consistency but great enthusiasm!

THE JUNIOR WARDEN 2024

Vice Admiral (Rtd) Paul M Bennett CB OBE



Paul was born in Staffordshire in 1964, brought up in Hull and educated at Hymers College and Newcastle University. He was made a Freeman of the Carpenters' Company in 2008 and has been a Liveryman since 2012. Paul joined the Royal Navy in September 1985. During a long sea-going career he operated extensively in European waters and deployed to the Falkland Islands and South Georgia, the Arabian Gulf, West Indies and the Far East. He commanded at every rank: HMS BITER, the patrol vessel of the Manchester and Salford Universities Royal Naval Unit (1991-1992); the Minehunter, HMS ATHERSTONE (1998-1999); and the destroyer HMS EXETER, including a deployment to the Gulf (1999-2000). He was the first commanding

officer of HMS DARING, the first T45 Destroyer to be built (2008-2009) and affiliated ship to the Carpenters' Company. As a Commodore, he commanded the Amphibious Task Group operating in the Indian Ocean, Norwegian Arctic, and on the West coast of the USA (2009-2011). As a Rear Admiral, he led the high readiness UK Maritime Battlestaff (2017-2018). Ashore, Paul served in a range of operational, capability and people-based jobs in Portsmouth, Northwood and London, and for 6 months in Baghdad as the advisor to the senior Iraqi hierarchy in their Ministry of Defence. His final role as a Vice Admiral was to run a multi-national NATO HQ, Allied Command Transformation, in Norfolk, Virginia (2018-2021). He retired from regular service in 2022 and took up a role as a NATO Senior Mentor, supporting the development of current Alliance maritime commanders and their staffs. He retains a number of service-related volunteer roles, notably President of the RN Officers' Charity. Paul is married to Kay and they have two grown up daughters Chelsie and Grace who are in the process of generating grandsons. They live in Portsmouth, enjoying the opportunity to be on the water whenever possible or in the South Downs on a road or mountain bike. He is the vice chair of a local primary School, director of Emsworth Sailing Club and Younger Brother of Trinity House.

Obituaries

LIVERY

Michael Pollock Howell Williams

1ST MAY 1931-
3RD SEPTEMBER 2023

Michael Williams died on 3rd September aged 92. He became a Freeman and Liveryman of the Carpenters' Company in 1954 and was the son of Liveryman H Trevor Williams. He was educated at Wellington College and joined the Royal Welch Fusiliers after Sandhurst, as did his father and uncle. His grandfather Sir Howell Jones Williams, also a liveryman, was a Welsh Progressive politician and prominent London builder.

Edward William Bestow

20TH AUGUST 1927-
27TH JUNE 2024



Edward (Ted) Bestow passed away on June 27th 2024 aged 96. He

was an enthusiastic member of the Carpenters' and had been a liveryman for over 60 years. Being a Carpenter ran in his family as both his grandfather (Charles Bestow) and father (Sidney Bestow) were members. Prior to moving back to Shaftesbury, where Ted went to school, he and his wife Sheila regularly took part in Carpenters' activities and particularly enjoyed the dinners. Both were architects. Ted spent most of his career working for the Girls' Day School Trust and was responsible for the design and execution of over 150 buildings during his 24 years there. He had a passion for making precise wooden models of archaeological sites. He was also an excellent water colour artist.

Robin John Birts

19TH AUGUST 1941-
26TH JANUARY 2024



Robin was born on 19th August 1941, the eldest of the three children of John and Audrey Birts. He died peacefully on 26th January 2024 aged 82 at his home in Todenham, Gloucestershire where he had lived for over 50 years. A Service of Thanksgiving

for his life, attended by many, was held at St Thomas à Becket Church at Todenham, on 30th April. After prep school at Hillside, Reigate, he went to Lancing College, where he was remembered as a man of many parts who enjoyed music, the theatre, painting and sport particularly football, tennis and fives. Although a modern linguist at Lancing, he went on to train as a doctor at Guy's Hospital in London and afterwards practised as a GP in Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire for his entire professional life.

His brother Peter recalls that 'Robin had many talents which his innate modesty helped him to hide very effectively. He was an accomplished oil and watercolour painter, a hands-on carpenter (something he learnt early on from our grandfather) and could play the piano by ear very pleasingly. His love of classical music inspired me to appreciate this art form at an early age. During our childhood in Sussex we relished our country rambles, collecting birds' eggs and butterflies, as young boys did in the 1950s. He was a good shot, both with an air rifle and a shotgun. In his adult life he became a keen breeder and trainer of black labradors, gaining many awards at field trials. This, and his love of salmon fishing in Scotland at which he also excelled, confirmed his standing as a true countryman. He took part in numerous Carpenters' clay shooting tournaments over the years and was a regular attender at livery dinners until towards the end of his life the journey became too much. He greatly cherished the Company's ancient traditions and mildly complained when to his horror snuff was no longer provided at dinner, on at least one occasion prompting the Clerk to remedy the situation by making

it available at his place only'. Robin is survived by his wife Deanne, their sons liverymen Nicholas, Charles and Henry Birts, six grandchildren, and brother Past Master Peter Birts. Their father John was a liveryman, as were several cousins.

Antony Edward Woolf

6TH DECEMBER 1930 -
6TH NOVEMBER 2023

His son Paul recounts:

Antony Edward Woolf (Tony) was born in London on the 6th of December 1930. His father Gilbert worked in the fur trade and then in the import business in St James's, and from an early age Tony learned about trade, fine dining and excellent service. He boarded at Cranleigh school and was a keen sportsman. He was quick, which meant he represented the school in athletics and as a winger in the rugby team. After Cranleigh and the end of the war, Tony did his National Service. He rose to the rank of Captain and was army boxing champion for his weight class. The retail trade soon came calling. Tony moved to St John's Wood and joined Etam, the family business. After serving his apprenticeship he joined Salisbury's handbags, part of Combined English Stores. In 1960 he married my mother Beryl 'Tim' Ward (daughter of Liveryman Leslie Ward) and they moved to Stoke d'Abernon, and then Broad Highway, Cobham, where his two sons were born. He lived in Cobham for the rest of his life. At work Tony rose up the ranks to become Managing Director of Combined English Stores. His empire included Salisbury's Handbags, Tammy Girl, Snob and

Harry Fenton menswear. He was a hard worker. His marketing flair was evidenced by his inspirational recruitment of Kevin Keegan as the Harry Fenton brand ambassador and his lead sponsor role at 'It's a Knockout' Crawley.

Tony had a great many interests outside work and he and my mother were very sociable. He loved being on the water and was an accomplished navigator, enjoying many family boating and fishing trips. A keen golfer and bridge player, he loved parties and took the family on numerous memorable holidays, often to exotic destinations. Tragically, my mother died of cancer in 1989 leaving the family devastated but Tony carried on resolutely continuing to look after our needs. In 1993 he married Naomi, with whom he enjoyed many years of happiness. The last years of his life were tough as dementia robbed him first of his independence, then his friends. He died one month short of his 93rd birthday, but was so happy to be able to stay in his lovely house until the end. Tony became a Freeman and then Liveryman of the Carpenters' Company in 1980. His nephews Brian and Simon Pickett are also liverymen.

Kenneth John Hall

27TH AUGUST 1949 -
19TH JANUARY 2024



Liveryman John Taylor writes:

Ken Hall was admitted to the Freedom in March 1986 and to the Livery in May 1992. He trained at the London College of Furniture where he became a bespoke cabinet maker. He worked as production manager for RS Stevens Furniture for some years before returning to his roots in the practical design and making of fine furniture. With three young children still to provide for, he took the plunge, and with his wife Brenda, set up Ashley Craft, based in Ongar, Essex. Business grew, more staff were employed and bigger workshops were needed. He worked with many interior designers and private clients designing and making high quality furniture. Ken came to know the Carpenters' Company through his father-in-law, Gilbert (George) Garlick, a long-serving member of the Hall staff who was at one time destined to become Beadle. Ken was a long-standing member of

the Carpenters' Craft Competition Committee, which he thoroughly enjoyed, producing many of the designs and then judging the finished pieces. Despite recurring ill-health in his later years, he continued to provide drawings and used his computer design skills to produce the certificates required to acknowledge and reward the efforts of the many entrants and, of course, the winners. Through Ashley Craft he also generously donated a prize for tools. He lived to witness the results of his last design for the Competition, a key cabinet which, after a delay due to the Covid pandemic, was the test piece for the 2022 competition. This proved to be very popular with the student competitors. As Chairman of the Competition Committee, I very much appreciated Ken Hall's unwavering support and the particular rapport he had built up with Freeman Chris Higley, the Competition Manager. Ken's memorial service was conducted by his son-in-law, Royal Naval Chaplain, the Reverend Ralph Barber, using many biblical allusions to the skill and craft of carpentry, including the Carpenter's Prayer recited at the Company's Annual Service. Ken was a Carpenter through and through.

Ian Lester

15TH OCTOBER 1943 -
13TH SEPTEMBER 2023

ASSISTANT CLERK TO THE
COMPANY 1976 - 2001



Ian Lester was born in Wednesbury, South Staffordshire, now the West Midlands, in 1943. His family moved to Oxford in 1951. On passing the 11 plus he attended Lord Williams's Grammar School for Boys, Thame, where he stayed until the age of 16. From there he went to work for Blackwell's bookshop in the music department, which suited him well given his love and extensive knowledge of music. He played the piano competently but complained that he did not start early enough. He taught himself to play the organ but gave up when he left Oxford, returning to it when he joined the Carpenters' Company. He played at All Hallows-on-the-Wall for a time and gave Friday lunchtime recitals. Ian also played piano duets with a colleague from Blackwell's, sang in Wadham College choir and played in the percussion section of

the Oxford Symphony Orchestra. His musical knowledge proved very useful and he was often involved in arranging the entertainment for Company dinners. After leaving Oxford Ian felt it was time to move on; he relocated to London and joined the travel industry. He worked for several companies, eventually becoming a director, but by the mid-1970s times were difficult for the holiday business so he decided to leave. In 1976 on perusing the *Times* vacancy columns he saw one for 'Assistant to the Clerk of a Major Livery Company'. He duly applied.

Ian met Alan in the late 1960s and together they travelled widely, initially through work but later for pleasure, often combining trips with his other great interest, music festivals. Ian also composed music, including putting some poetry to music for a milestone wedding anniversary present for friends. Ian's health had been failing for some time and he died in University College Hospital on the 13th September 2023 at the age of 79. Ian Lester was admitted to the Freedom of the Company in 1983 and made a Liveryman in 2001.

Book Review

Living Tradition The Architecture and Urbanism of Hugh Petter

By Clive Aslet with a Foreword by His Royal Highness the Former Prince of Wales and published by Triglyph Books in 2023. Photography by Dylan Thomas.
By Past Master Rachel Bower



A coffee table book that will appeal to many Carpenters. The author is our Freeman Clive Aslet, prolific architectural writer and former editor of *Country Life*. His subject covers thirty years of work at home and abroad by his friend, architect and our Liveryman Hugh Petter.

With a strong leaning towards classicism - never encouraged at architecture schools - Hugh attended the 1990 Summer School created by Honorary Liveryman The Prince of Wales as part of his quest to keep alive the classical tradition of architecture. It was an important moment for Hugh who has continued to be involved ever

since as The King's architectural and cultural education enterprises have evolved. He has been mentor, senior tutor and later consultant and trustee throughout his career.

A second pivotal point was twice winning the prized British School of Rome (BSR) Architecture Scholarship when he studied the development of Rome after Italy's unification in the late nineteenth century. Connections with the BSR were also maintained, including a fundraising role to ensure the survival of the Scholarship itself. In 2003, Hugh was back at the BSR, commissioned to extend library space and provide an

Company visit to the British School of Rome in 2017 - Hugh Petter pictured centre, facing

auditorium and separate entrance without apparently increasing the building's footprint. Hugh's research and knowledge of the building's history eventually won the Roman authorities' approval, as it has for commissions at home with tricky planning authorities.

Dylan Thomas's photography is superb throughout, illustrating the four areas of Hugh's work - New Houses, Restoration, Public Architecture and Masterplanning & Urban Design.

The New Houses are unquestionably grand, beautifully designed and built, and presumably hideously expensive. The first – A Stone House - shook me to the core: a Baroque palace in limestone with Corinthian columns and pediments (complete with carved water gods) and terraces somewhat reminiscent of Cliveden. This building is a great white limestone shell lined with concrete - a shell awaiting a purchaser with vision and deep pockets.

Large but more relatable new houses in Berkshire and Wiltshire follow, where clients' aspirations had to be fulfilled, settings in the landscape carefully considered and planners placated. Abroad, a large 'very colonial, very traditional' house was commissioned in the

Caribbean where the principles of volume and proportion were balanced, colours in strong sunlight considered and the use of mahogany throughout recognized as the only wood that withstands sun, salt spray and termites.

The Restoration case studies include houses gutted by fire and lightning yet lovingly rebuilt, updated and invariably extended. Reading about the rescue of Grade 1 Chettle House in Dorset, a wonderful early eighteenth century and rare domestic brick building by Thomas Archer, is a real treat.

Hugh's masterplanning and urban design work includes his work for the Duchy of Cornwall at Nansledan adjoining Newquay. The Duchy's Poundbury estate

near Dorchester had a bad press in the 1990s and is now nearing completion. As illustrated in the book, Nansledan seems more organic and assured, but the pallet of building materials, paint colours and external fittings are strictly controlled by the Duchy. Some 30% of the housing will be 'affordable' and the Duke of Cornwall, His Royal Highness Prince William, is pressing for housing for the homeless to be part of the masterplan.

Aslet's Introduction is informative and the Catalogue Raisonné underlines the scale and range of Hugh's prodigious career thus far. I have been absorbed by it all.

Gifts

The Master Dr Allen Zimber and his Consort, Dr Caryn Solomon, presented 'Continuity Rings' to the Company in July, a sculpture made of 2048 small joined segments of upcycled sustainable French Oak made to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. A continuous loop of four toruses, or rings, the piece represents the four interlocking nations of the UK and the continuity of the monarchy and the tradition surrounding it. Made by Nathanael Griffiths, a young woodworker from Chester, 'Continuity Rings' won the Worshipful Company of Woodturners competition judged by curators from the V&A Museum and held to celebrate the Coronation and showcase the UK's best woodturners. Nathanael has won the Young Turner of the Year Award from

the Guild of Master Craftsmen and was recently acclaimed Britain's Best Woodworker in the Channel 4 competition. The Master hoped that the continuity represented by the rings would augur well for the continuity of the Carpenters' Company.



The Leathersellers' Company
The Seventh Hall of the Leathersellers' Company The Seventh Hall of the Leathersellers' Company by Dagmar Motyca Weston (2020)

Liveryman Hugh D. M. Petter
Living Tradition. The Architecture and Urbanism of Hugh Petter by Clive Aslet (2023)

Past Master Michael O. P. May
Worcester Flight & Barr Porcelain by Charles Dawson (2023)

Liveryman John B. Campbell
Philadelphia Architecture. A Guide to the City by John Andrew Gallery (2009)

'Continuity Rings'

Company Appointments

The following held appointments during the Company year 2023/2024

COURT

Master

Dr. A. Zimbler

Senior Warden

Dr. L. D. G. Grossman CBE

Middle Warden

Mr. S. G. Corbett/ Mr. L. S. Mallinson

Junior Warden

Mr. L. S. Mallinson/ Mr. J. W. Preston

Mr. V. G. Morton-Smith

Mr. W. S. Haynes

Mr. J. A. C. Wheeler

Mr. M. O. P. May

Mr. M. R. Mathews

Mr. H. M. Lancaster

Mr. M. J. Samuel

Mr. M. R. Mosley

Mr. M. W. F. Felton

Mr. M. H. W. Neal

Mr. A. M. Gregory-Smith

Mrs. R. F. Bower

His Honour P. W. Birts, KC

Mr. M. J. Morrison OBE

Brigadier M. J. Meardon DL

Past Masters Emeritus:

Mr. F. D. Hornsby

Mr. N. B. C. Eveleigh, MBE

Mr. D. F. Newman

Mr. J. D. Sennitt

Mr. G. P. S. Downes, CVO

The Revd. Dr. W. P. Povey JP

The Lord Flight, of Worcester

COMMITTEES *

General Purposes Committee

The Master

The Senior Warden

The Middle Warden

The Junior Warden

Mr. M. R. Mathews

Mr. M. R. Mosley

Mr. A. M. Gregory-Smith

Mr. M. J. Morrison

Brig. M. J. Meardon

Vice Admiral P. M. Bennett

(Co-opted)

Mr. J. A. Greaves (Co-opted)

The Clerk

The Financial Controller

Company Surveyor

Company Solicitor

Building Crafts

College Board of Governors

The Master

The Middle Warden

Mr. A. M. Gregory-Smith

Mrs. R. F. Bower

Mr. M. J. Morrison

Brig. M. J. Meardon

Mr. J. Burton (Co-opted)

Mr. N. Gutfreund (Co-opted)

Mr. A. T. Mortimer (Co-opted)

Mr. B. J. D. U. Hodgson (Co-opted)

Mr. P. G. Wilkinson (Co-opted)

Mr. J. Barradell (Co-opted)

The Clerk

The Principal of the BCC

The Business Manager of the BCC

The Financial Controller

Craft Committee

The Master

The Junior Warden

Mr. M. R. Mosley

Mr. M. W. F. Felton

Brig. M. J. Meardon

Mr. J. C. M. Taylor

Mr. M. P. S. Horn (Co-opted)

Mr. C. C. G. Trevor (Co-opted)

Mr. L. R. Conway (Co-opted)

Mr. W. M. Avery (Co-opted)

The Principal of the BCC

The Clerk

Investments Committee

The Master

The Senior Warden

Mr. H. M. Lancaster

Mr. M. R. Mosley

Mr. M. O. P. May

Mr. E. A. C. Cottrell (Co-opted)

Mr. J. R. D. Korner (Co-opted)

Mr. A. B. Cottrell (Co-opted)

Mr. R. J. Hamilton (Co-opted)

The Clerk

The Financial Controller

Rustington Convalescent Home Committee of Management

The Master

The Junior Warden

Mr. M. O. P. May

Mr. M. J. Samuel

Mr. M. H. W. Neal

Mr. R. C. Galbraith (Co-opted)

Mr. R. H. Eveleigh (Co-opted)

Dr. C. N. Birts (Co-opted)

Mr. F. M. C. Wheeler (Co-opted)

The Clerk

The Home Manager

The Financial Controller

Charitable Grants Committee

The Master

The Senior Warden

Mr. M. J. Samuel

Mr. M. W. F. Felton

His Hon. P. W. Birts

Cdr. D. I Burns (Co-opted)

Mrs. C. E. Whittaker (Co-opted)

Mr. R. J. Samuel (Co-opted)

Mr. C. R. Cooper (Co-opted)

The Clerk

Craft & Charities Administrator

Admissions Committee

The Master

Mr. M. R. Mathews

Mr. M. R. Mosley

Mrs. R. F. Bower

His Hon. P. W. Birts

The Clerk

TRUSTEES *

Carpenters' Company Charitable Trust

Mr. M. R. Mathews

Mr. M. J. Samuel

Mr. A. M. Gregory-Smith

Mrs. R. F. Bower

The Clerk

The Financial Controller

Company Pension Fund Trustees

Mr. M. R. Mosley

Mr. R. G. Gregory-Smith

Mr. J. C. M. Taylor

The Clerk

The Financial Controller

Building Crafts College Trading Ltd:

Mr. A. M. Gregory-Smith

Mr. M. J. Morrison

The Clerk

The Principal

The Financial Controller

**Names in bold are Chairmen*

OFFICERS OF THE COMPANY

Clerk

Brigadier T.J. Gregson, MBE

Financial Controller

Ms. J. Brundell

Beadle

Mr. D. Neal

Manager of the Rustington

Convalescent Home

Mrs. J. Haynes

Principal of the Building

Crafts College

Ms S. Bolingbroke

Bursar of the Building

Crafts College

Mr. J. Mercer / Mr. S. Wyatt

Company Solicitor

Ms C. Nelson of Wedlake Bell

Company Surveyor

Mr. J. C. Harding of Daniel Watney

Company Auditor

Mr. E. Finch of Buzzacott

Calendar

2024

2nd October
Liverymen and
Freemen's Reception

15th October
Wine Tasting

6th November
Inter-Livery Real Tennis
Tournament

9th November
Lord Mayor's Show

13th November
Livery Dinner

20th November
Wood Awards

26th November
Building Crafts College Prize-giving

2024

23rd-24th January
Inter-Livery Ski-ing, Morzine,
France

3rd March
Inter-Livery Bridge

12th March
Livery Spring Dinner

28th March
United Guilds Service

3rd April (TBC)
Livery Golf

11th April
Livery Clay Shoot

16th-17th May
Company Visit

14th-15th May
Inter-Livery Clay Shoot

TBC May
Inter-Livery Golf

16-17th May
Inter-Livery Regatta, Cowes

11th June
Court Summer Dinner

24th June
Sheriffs' Election

16th July
Court Visit to Rustington
Convalescent Home

17th July
Building Crafts College
End of Year Show

TBC July
Company Tennis

22nd July
**General Court of the Livery
and Election Court**

TBC September
Open House

TBC September
Sheriffs' Admission

29th September
Lord Mayor's Election

1st October
Livery and Freemen's Reception

14th October
Wine Tasting

8th November
Lord Mayor's Show

11th November
Building Crafts College Prize-giving

12th November
Livery Dinner

19th November
Wood Awards

The Worshipful Company of Carpenters
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