



NEWS

AUTUMN 2008 | ISSUE 46

City Livery Club
uniting the livery, promoting fellowship

Supporting the Lord Mayor, the City Corporation and the Livery Companies since 1914



President, Officers and Guests - Annual Banquet

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THE ANNUAL BANQUET

The Annual Banquet was held on 9 September at Barber-Surgeons Hall, a splendid setting for the President's last event of his year of office.

David Rundle and his wife Ann were delighted that the Hall was full to capacity and welcomed many distinguished guests: the Deacon Convener of Glasgow and his wife; Master of the Guild of Freemen, Pauline Halliday and her spouse Peter; President of the United Wards Club Deputy Stella Currie; Chairman of the Royal Society of St. George, City of London Branch, Stephen Lane and his wife Pamela; The Master of the Worshipful Company of Barbers, Adam Lewis and his wife Margaret, Owen Luder CBE Past President of the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Guest Speaker, Paul Double,

Remembrancer of the City of London and his wife Glynis.

Junior Vice President Ald. Alison Gowman proposed the toast to the guests, cleverly comparing certain guests to the herbs in the Barber-Surgeons' famous Herb Garden. Guest Speaker Paul Double gave a most interesting insight to his work in the City and ended by proposing the toast to the City Livery Club, to which the President responded.

The Hon. Chaplain the Rev. Prebendary David Burgess, who is retiring, was unfortunately unable to be with us but the President thanked him for his



'President thanks Remembrancer Paul Double' Note spelling of Remembrancer - this is correct.

contribution to the Club over many years, wished him and his wife well in retirement and said that a gift, which it was hoped to present to him, would be delivered to him with our very best wishes. The President then spoke of his year of office and thanked all those who had assisted him during his year especially those who participated in the Strategic Review. He ended by thanking his wife Ann for her support, wished the Club and the incoming Officers every success and thanked all present for attending.



Belles among the Bells!

CLUB VISIT TO WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

Saturday 26 May, a beautiful bright and sunny day, a party of 35 Club Members and friends gathered in the small shop area of the Whitechapel Bell Foundry for a tour.

After an introductory talk in the very hot shop, I wondered who would faint first: fortunately no one did and the tour commenced with a visit to the casting area where we were able to see the moulds and four bells in their moulds which had been recently cast.

The visit took us to the tuning area and then into the workshop where the bell mounts are assembled and then taken apart so that they can be lifted into what are, very frequently, confined spaces and re-assembled.

The party then climbed two very steep staircases to the top floor, no one over five feet eight inches works here due to the restricted headroom. This was the carpenters shop where they make the large wheels so that the ringers can rotate the bells and manage them. Without these the bells would not be rung in sequence and would not produce a harmonic sound. Down one floor and we came to the hand bell section where the size of the bells ranges from about two inches high to a massive fifteen or so inches. The Whitechapel Bell Foundry is one of the few remaining

industrial businesses in the East End and one of only two bell foundries in Britain. Its history dates from about 1570 and although it has been extended and modern machinery installed, the art of bell making has changed very little over all those years. The factory prides itself on being accident free even though handling tons of hot metal and shifting very heavy loads in cramped conditions.

After our Foundry Tour, Blue Badge Guide Reg Denny took us on a walking tour through the streets and alleys of Whitechapel pointing out the unusual and oft forgotten parts of our great metropolis. For many years Reg was a policeman in the area so his knowledge was indeed profound and above all very interesting.

The walking tour ended in Brick Lane where tables had been booked at Café Naz an excellent Indian Restaurant where a buffet supper awaited the by now very hungry, and of course thirsty, souls. Soon the Cobra's and wine began to flow and then came the food. I think we all went home well satisfied with a day well spent.

IRONBRIDGE

President, David Rundle and his wife Ann represented the Club at the Annual Livery Visit to Ironbridge. On the first morning during the drive to Blists Hill where considerable re-development is taking place, our guide explained that for every thousand pounds collected they were able to get an EU grant of £48000, a real bargain and for every pound an individual can donate, this when 'Gift Aided', increases by 28%.

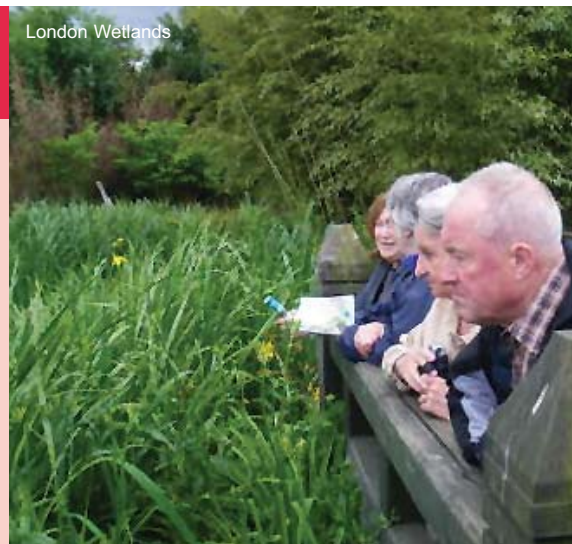
At Blists Hill we started at the top with its traditional pub, shops and workshops. The photo shows a Stonemason's Apprentice preparing a test piece for his Master dressed in traditional Victorian clothing. We went from Blists Hill to other sites in the area including china and glass works, then to lunch. The afternoon continued with visits to other parts of the Trust.



The Stonemason's Apprentice.

The Friday and Saturday evening Dinners were excellent: Saturday's being held in the Museum of Engineering where all manner of machines were available to be worked either by hand or electricity. The weekend finished with a visit to the Aerospace Museum at Cosford. The Ironbridge Trust is one more charity that I hope the Club will support as our funds grow.

London Wetlands



VISIT TO LONDON WETLANDS

On a not too warm day in June 2008 a group of members and friends gathered at the London Wetlands Centre for a tour of the site. First we were shown a short film of what the Trust does and then what we may expect to see before embarking on the tour with guide.

Our guide showed us many species of birds and plants and what was particularly interesting was the

Australian garden with Eucalyptus, Callistemon and many other plants native to that region.

We finished a most interesting tour with a Barbeque and drinks at the waterside restaurant, by this time the weather had improved from being just dull to fairly sunny and we were all able too sit on the deck overlooking the large lake again full of many species of wading birds.

THE AERO SECTION HAS BEEN ENJOYING A MEMORABLE YEAR UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF ALDERMAN DAVID MAULEVERER.

At our May luncheon our guest speaker was British Airways Captain Eric Moody (retired). He related the extraordinary story of how, on a routine scheduled overnight passenger flight, he and his crew flew their 747 without power after volcanic ash, high in the atmosphere over Indonesia, got sucked into the engines. As the engines shut down one by one, and failed to re-start, Captain Moody, not knowing the cause of the problem, literally glided the aircraft in a slow descent, and prepared to ditch. At the last moment, the engines suddenly powered up, and the crew brought the 747 and its passengers safely home. Captain Moody was subsequently awarded the Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air.



Captain Brown & Chairman

At our July luncheon, we were privileged to host Captain Eric "Winkle" Brown CBE, DSC, AFC who told of his first-hand experiences in uncovering German aviation technology at the end of WW2, and his role in the interrogation of Himmler, Goering and others. Although 87 years old, the wonderfully energetic Captain Brown had everyone on the edge of their seats as he related how, at the close of WW2, he flew highly unpredictable and sometimes downright dangerous captured

German prototype aircraft, in an attempt to unravel the technology. As he chillingly observed - the Germans were but a hairsbreadth from developing advanced jet propulsion and rocket weaponry that would have been no match for the Allies.



We are now running up to the end of the Club year, and looking forward to our 40th Anniversary year, when Group Captain Peter Holtby (ret) will take the Chair at our AGM on 28th October. We shall be celebrating the occasion with an AGM dinner at the Farmers & Fletchers Hall, and our guest speaker will be Professor Keith Hayward, Head of Research at the Aeronautical Society. Prof. Hayward's talk is entitled "Into the Second Century of British Powered Flight" - which seems an apt way of kicking off our Anniversary Year!

The Aero Section welcomes new members - you don't have to be a flyer - just simply interested in aviation. We are looking to extend our horizons by incorporating more outside visits to our schedule of events, and it would be great to get more new people on board. Please contact me if you're interested to know more.

Jeremy Cantwell, Hon Secretary
CLC Aero Section
E-mail: jcantwell@bbmax.co.uk Tel: 020 8319 1964

ANTIQUES CIRCLE

The ingenuity of the human mind is utterly amazing. Equally astonishing is the fact that some of the things we invent ever saw the light of day.

Members of the Livery Club Antiques Circle had a delightfully informative evening recently at the British Library when a talk on Weir and Wonderful Inventions and Gadgets was given by Maurice Collins, OBE, MA, FRSA.

Clever and sometimes bizarre items from this Collection were on display. If you felt too fatigued to pour your own tea there was a self-pouring teapot. Amongst clever devices too numerous to mention you could go in for re-shaping your nose on a DIY basis or use a horse action saddle, without the horse, which was claimed to 'improve the figure' presumably of the person, not the horse. Presumably Trading Standards Officers had not then been invented.

Wine, canapés and a group photograph all added to an unusual and imaginative evening. If you are not already a member of the Circle why not come and join us by contacting the Secretary, Ivan Nellist via the Club's office.



MOTORING SECTION

At the Annual General Meeting in March, Albert Davis was elected Chairman and John Atkinson, Vice-Chairman.

The previous Chairman Ernie Pilgrim had enjoyed a most successful year in office. The highlight of his year was undoubtedly the 3-day visit to Warwickshire in October. The programme was varied. The paintings and gardens at Compton Verney, (for culture), the shops at Bicester Village, (for retail therapy), a visit to PRO-DRIVE at Banbury where Aston-Martins are modified and tuned for top level competition and Subaru cars are hotted-up for police pursuit duties, plus tours of the Coventry Motor Museum and the Jaguar Heritage Trust Museum also at Coventry - these last three in the interest of motoring matters.

At the last Committee Meeting a presentation was made to the Honorary Secretary Graham Redcliffe to mark 25 years of service in that office.

Albert Davis started his year well with the April luncheon. A talk was given by Andrew Wood, (of Rolls-Royce and Bentley fame), who had recently traversed the Sahara Desert on a Yamaha TTR 600 motorcycle starting at Nouakchott on the west coast of Mauritania and arriving 20 days and 2,456 miles later at Timbuctou. Andrew was accompanied by his 23 year old daughter Louise riding independently an identical motorcycle. They jointly raised £73,651 for charity, which was supplemented by a donation from the Motoring Section. In July the Section supported 'Classics on the Common' at Harpenden, where over 1300 cars were exhibited.

A lunch and visit is being arranged to the Museum of Transport at Covent Garden. Other planned events are:

- The London to Brighton Emancipation Run - 2 November with lunch at the Thistle Hotel
- A visit to the Mercedes-Benz Museum in Stuttgart - 27 - 30 November and a visit to the Christmas Market

Luncheon dates for 2009:
16 January, 12 March, 21 April, 15 October.

If any Member of the Club is interested in joining the Motoring Section, please contact Graham Redcliffe 020 8508 2318.

GOLFING

During early May 12 members travelled to Le Touquet for the Section's annual holiday competing over four days for a number of prizes and trophies. Accommodation was provided at Le Manoir Hotel where Le Forest and La Mer golf courses are conveniently situated. In addition the members played golf at Belle Dune and Le Pins at Hardelot. The result was a thoroughly relaxing holiday with good golf and excellent food, wine and company made all the more enjoyable by superb weather.

Enquiries relating to the golf section can be obtained from Michael Duffy on 01483 723209; michael.duffy@lg-legal.com

THE MUSIC SECTION

Following our Annual General Meeting at Guildhall on the 13 March at which Kay Curtis was elected Chairman for the ensuing year, we adjourned to the Members' Dining Room for a most enjoyable Dinner.

On the 18 April we held a successful Dinner at the Carlton Club during which we were entertained with a musical presentation by Holly Cook and Tamara Young, both Students of Trinity College, which the Section supports.

The 15 May saw us back at Guildhall for the Chairman's Luncheon with our special Guest Speaker Lady Valerie Solti who entertained us with an excellent insight of her life with Conductor Husband Sir George Solti who introduced her to the world of classical music. She went on to create The Solti Foundation, which specifically supports students during their first year when their financial funds are lowest

This was followed on the 9 July with a visit to the Guildhall School of Music and Drama for the 10th Anniversary of the Summer Gala. This commenced with a Drinks Reception and a pre-event Meal in the newly restored Garden Terrace, after which we were entertained by an excellent Top Students' performance of "The City of Angels"; much enjoyed by all. The GSMD is another of our supported Schools.

St.Paul's Cathedral was our venue on Monday 22 September for a Champagne Reception, a Musical and Historical Presentation with Supper in the Crypt as part of the Dean and Chapter's 300th Anniversary celebrations of the "Topping-



Chairman with CLC Hon Treasurer

Out" by Christopher Wren, son of Architect Sir Christopher Wren in 1708 who lived for 13 years after the final completion of his World Famous Masterpiece in 1710. The celebrations began some 6 years ago with a stunning £20m restoration and cleaning programme which itself is nearing completion.

This will be followed on the 9 October by an Evening with Andrew Davies at The Swendenborg Society, 20

Bloomsbury Way, WC1 followed by a Dinner at "Denise's" the World Famous French Restaurant in nearby Southampton Row.

On the 8 November our Chairman is Hosting a Bonfire Night Dinner/Dance at the West Lodge Country Retreat at Hadley Wood, Hertfordshire.

Our year ends with a Gala Dinner on the 2 December at the Kingsway Hall Hotel in Holborn with a Presentation of Awards to the Four Schools of Music we support: Trinity College, The Royal School of Music, The Guildhall School of Music and Drama and a Performance by Members of The Orpheus Centre founded by Radio and Television Presenter Richard Stilgoe.

We look forward to the support of our Members for these final events of our Chairman's Year and those wishing to join us should contact our Honorary Secretary Eric Nash: (0208 303 4573) 12 Margaret Road, Bexley, Kent DA3 2DU.

TENNIS SECTION

Our Annual General Meeting was held on 4 March at the Queens Club. The Chairman, Penny Spears, agreed to serve for another year. Michael Richards was elected as Captain and Dilip Kapur Vice-Captain

The Section enjoyed an afternoon of tennis at the RAC Club on 13 May, followed by dinner.

The Sections' first visit to the National Tennis Centre on 3 June was spoilt by rain, but we were given a conducted tour of the Centre to compensate. Some of our members saw the Murray brothers playing on the indoor courts. Mike Bushell, the TV sports commentator was recording a match between himself and an up and coming youngster. The Section enjoyed a superb dinner in the evening. We are hoping to pay another visit there next year and hope the weather will be kinder to us.

Our annual visit to the City of London Freeman's School on 17 June was most enjoyable. The staff and pupils gave our players a hard time, but again there were no winners or losers. We were sorry to say goodbye to Eleanor Deighton, sports mistress who has helped us over many years to arrange the matches against the School. Chairman Penny presented her with a gift from the Section.

16 July saw us enjoying an afternoon of tennis at Phyllis Court followed by dinner in the Thames Room. Our thanks go to Mike Revell for organising the tennis. Captain's Day was on 3 September at East Hoathly Tennis Club followed by dinner at the nearby East Sussex Golf resort and Spa - some members are taking the opportunity of staying overnight to play tennis and golf the next day.

Our end of season luncheon will be at Queens Club on 11 November.

Interested in Tennis? Contact Gillian Lanstaff, Hon Secretary 01737 370012

WINE CIRCLE

The following Officers have been elected:

Chairman: Paul Herbage
Hon. Secretary: Judy Tayler-Smith
Hon. Treasurer: Nigel James Couzens

For details of the programme of activities, contact the Hon Secretary, 07932 647 558 or email judy@taylor-smith.fsnet.co.uk



Chairman and Hon Treasurer