



NEWS

City Livery Club

uniting the livery, promoting fellowship

SUMMER 2009 | ISSUE 48

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



This renewed interest has been generated out of last years Strategic Review and a willingness by your Officers and Members of Council to implement procedures updating and improving our administration and facilities we offer. Our broad range of Section Activities catering for a wide variety of interests, along with the very advantageous benefits gained from reciprocal arrangements with other Clubs remains strong reasons for joining.

I am writing these words sitting in a beautiful Shropshire garden gently warmed by the early evening sunshine, having just taken part in a most enjoyable and interesting Livery Weekend at Ironbridge, and reflecting on the many events I have attended on behalf of the Club since my year of office began last October.

What pleases me is that I am finding there is a new awareness within the Livery Companies of what the City Livery Club has to offer its Members.

Although the economic problems are still with us we remain upbeat having just enjoyed a very successful 'New Members Evening' as well as bookings for future events remaining buoyant.

I look forward to your continued support during the rest of my year and meeting further new members at one of our forthcoming events.

**Michael Gilham -
President**

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FROM THE NEW EDITOR

This is my first effort to collate any sort of newsletter, which I would not have been able to do without much help from others. I would like to particularly acknowledge the ever present support of the previous editors, Junior Vice-President Valerie and Past-President Norman Boakes. Mike Spencer, our publisher has been very tolerant and helpful, and of course my thanks go to those contributors who have made it all possible.

While the content is largely and inevitably based on reports of past events, I would urge members to pay particular attention to "Forthcoming Events" so that the dates of events that appeal can be entered in diaries in good time. I hope you find this issue informative and useful, and it goes without saying that the responsibility for any errors remains firmly in the Editor's court.

Lynn Walters - Editor

The Editor welcomes your contributions and photographs which should be sent by email to walterslynn@yahoo.co.uk or T: 01344 422419 (Copy date for next issue: 30th October 2009)

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NOTES FROM THE HONORARY SECRETARY'S DESK

When asked by our Editor to write a few words for this issue of the Newsletter, we discussed various Strap Lines. I came across the above one day in our Club Room when browsing through the Library and happened upon an archived edition of *THE LIVERYMAN*, wherein I found that one of my predecessors had also penned his jottings under the strap line, "Note from...." which I thought it fitting to adopt. The desk no longer exists of course, for my office is a briefcase and laptop, which I am doing my best to master.

Since taking on the role of Hon. Secretary last October, I have been on a fast learning curve. I even remembered to wear both Badge of Office and Club tie together to a recent Council meeting – I feel I am making progress!

I am fully committed to the Club and its objectives following the all important Strategic Review (our route map) carried out by the Club last year. The key to the future longevity of the Club lies in the

pivotal decisions and strategies determined following this Review. However, this cannot be achieved without the support of an active, engaged membership. This, I realise, is a two-way partnership between the Officers/Council and membership in providing a programme, facilities, and structure that our membership can support, starting with our core events.

In these pressing economic times, our President and President Elect are ever more conscious of the cost to our membership of these events, and are recognising this in ticket pricing. However, the best way to reduce ticket prices for all is to increase attendance, and I would encourage you to support these events.

Finally, and back to the Library, how many of you visit the Library/Club Room at the Baltic Exchange? How many of you realise the important volumes that are housed there containing past records and history of the Club; back copies of *THE LIVERYMAN* to 1914, as well as interesting and



informative publications on the City in general together with recent classics such as Rudyard Kipling and Robert Louis Stevenson.

Do pop in when you are next in town. Our Clerk, Ann Cutter, would be delighted to see you and offer you coffee and the opportunity for a quiet moment browsing our unique past.

Do feel free to contact me or any other Officer on any pertinent matter for the Club. I look forward to meeting you at future events.

**Roger Hacker -
Honorary Secretary**

DISCUSSION GROUP MEETING ON THE COMPANY OF PIKEMEN & MUSKETEERS

On 12th May 2009 the Rt. Hon John Wheeler, Privy Councillor, gave a most interesting and informative talk on the work of the Privy Councillors without breaching his secrecy code. Following this highly successful event Past President Mei Sim Lai has arranged for Pastmaster of the Fanmakers Company, Major Tony O' Hagan to give a talk and PowerPoint presentation on the work and activities of the Company of Pikemen & Musketeers. The Discussion Group Meeting will take place on Wednesday 29th July 2009. The usual timing is, meet at 12 noon for 12.15 p.m. start, until 1.15 p.m. followed by optional lunch afterwards.

Please contact Mei Sim on T: 07903 153 793 or email if you would like to attend this event.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU!



On 7th May, the President invited new and prospective members to join him, together with the Officers, Past Presidents and Section Representatives, at an evening Reception.

In all, 36 of us gathered for what proved to be a most enjoyable and stimulating evening – which resulted in newly-elected Members gaining an insight into the wide range of events now open to them, and prospective members being made aware of the very significant role which our Club plays in the life of the City Civic. Several Officers arranged short tours of the Club facilities and those available within the Baltic. While enjoying a glass of wine and snacks, networking was taking place, new contacts were made and old friends shared knowledge of past and current Club activities.

Four prospective Members joined 'on the spot' and we anticipate further applications very shortly. So successful was the event, plans are in hand to hold a further Reception during September.

**Valerie Boakes -
Junior Vice President.**



CITY LIVERY CLUB WINE CIRCLE ANNUAL DINNER

The Wine Circle held its Annual Dinner on 30th April at the Clerkenwell Dining Rooms in St. John Street. Officers and members were delighted

that Club President Michael Gilham and his wife Wynne were able to join them as their guests (even though it was Michael who organised the dinner in his role of the Wine Circle's Events Secretary).

In November 2001, the Clerkenwell Dining Room was opened by ex Michelin star chef Andrew Thompson. The Restaurant offers fine dining in a split-level modern, contemporary and stylish building in the fashionable Clerkenwell area. Their



menu is modern European with occasional touches of 'Michelin'-style, mixed with gusty flavours combinations. The Restaurant has an excellent review in the 2009 Good Food Guide and has been awarded two AA Rosettes.

The evening began with a sparkling wine reception downstairs, followed by dinner in a private room upstairs. Members and guests were given a choice of menu, wines, coffee and liqueurs. Everyone enjoyed the convivial company, welcoming surroundings and friendly staff.

If anyone is interested in joining the Wine Circle, or would like further information, the Honorary Secretary would be very pleased to hear from you.

**Judy Tayler-Smith - Honorary Secretary and
Immediate Past Chairman. T: 020 7608 3473**

MUSIC SECTION

On 25th March 2009 members and guests foregathered at Cantina Augusto Italian Restaurant for a simple but tasty Italian lunch, before walking the short distance to the Central School of Ballet on Clerkenwell Road. We were joined there by some of the Chairman's ballet friends, and greeted by Elena Kuryleva, the Development Manager who told us the history of the Central School of Ballet. Ballet Central is made up of third year students who tour the country as part of their degree course. In so doing, they gain experience of working on many different sized stages, and also learn all aspects of putting on a performance, with the aim of helping them obtain contracts when they graduate.

We were then taken to one of the studios where the students performed a very varied and entertaining show of seven of the eleven pieces that they are taking on tour. There was something for all tastes - classical ballet, jazz, hip hop



and finishing with 'Whodunnit' based on the game Cludo. We were most impressed with the enthusiasm and high level of dance which made it a very enjoyable

experience. In the interval some of the group toured around the school, and we finished with very welcome tea and cup cakes.

On 12th May 2009, we welcomed Tony Hall, Chief Executive of the Royal Opera House as our guest speaker at the Chairman's lunch in the private dining room at the Guildhall.

The annual visit to the Guildhall School of Music and Drama has had to be cancelled as the Chairman will be away at the time but is arranging an event there in the autumn. On Thursday 8th October 2009, there will be a Jazz evening on board HMS President together with the United Wards Club.

**Adrienne Waterfield - Chairman -
Music Section - Council Member**

WOMEN IN THE LIVERY



Mei Sim Lai, Lady Dannatt of SSAFA Forces Help and Alderman Alison Gowman at last year's Women in the Livery Summer Reception at the Club.

In 2008/09 there were 18447 appointments to public bodies in the UK. Of these 66.7% were men whilst only 33.3% were women. To address the imbalance, the Government Equalities Office is committed to increasing the 33.3% to 50% by March 2011. To help raise awareness and to encourage more women to apply for public appointments, Past President Mei Sim has arranged for Janet Gaymer CBE, Commissioner of Public Appointments, to be the speaker at a Women in the Livery lunch-time event on 28th September 2009. Janet is also a Court Assistant of the Worshipful Company of Solicitors; the Patron of

City Women's Network and a fellow Board member of Mei Sim's at the International Women of Excellence. In addition to women in the livery, attendees to the event will also include women who have considerable experience in helping others to succeed when applying for public appointments .

Other coming Women in the Livery events include the Annual Summer Reception which will be held on 22nd July 2009, followed by a joint lunch in the City with members of the Westminster Dining Club on 28th October 2009. On 14th July Mei Sim has also arranged for Wing Commander Mike Dudgeon, Past Master of the Mercers Company to host an afternoon visit to Mercers Hall. This event will be preceded by lunch at the Butchers' Hall for those who are interested .

If you would like to join the Women in the Livery Section and attend the coming events please contact Mei Sim on T: 07903 153 793 or email her on MeiSim@LaiPeters.org

AERO SECTION



A viation has been in the news of late, not always to advantage given current debates enveloping everything from environmental to economic issues.

Aero Section members have thus preferred to remain grounded for the first part of 2009, instead basking in the always conducive

surroundings of the Guildhall Club for two excellent luncheons hosted by our Chairman, Group Captain Peter Holtby. Peter's guest of honour at our 18th March luncheon was Tony Craig, a former RAF Lightning pilot

and test pilot, who related his experiences of flying the very last remaining DH Mosquito. Tony's very honest account of trying to get to grips with this aeroplane whilst getting lost somewhere over remote parts of England, and simultaneously having to deal with some rather vague air traffic control instructions, had many a long in the tooth Aero Section aviator reaching for fortifying gulps of Shiraz Tony successfully and safely returned the Mosquito, although sadly this same aeroplane was subsequently written off some time later. And on the 20th May, our speaking guest was Andrew Brookes, an Aerospace Analyst at the International Institute for



Above: L-R Mr. Tony Craig - Guest Speaker, Group Captain Peter Holtby - Section Chairman, Mrs. B. Vigrass J.P. **Below:** Group Captain Peter Holtby, Captain Arthur Creighton, Mr. Andrew Brookes - Guest Speaker.



Strategic Studies, and a well known broadcaster and aviation author in his own right. Andrew spoke on the operational history and effectiveness of the V-Bomber force, and Section members were treated to several nuggets of not so well known facts surrounding the fabled Vulcan, Victor and Valiant strike force, delivered with Andrew's customary wit.

To coincide with our 40th Anniversary Year, Aero Section member Captain Arthur Creighton has designed a truly splendid new Section logo, which made its first public appearance at our 20th May luncheon to much critical acclaim by all members present. The distinctive new design incorporates many of the features of the original, but adds

detail and colour which entirely transforms it, resulting in a fresh, re-invigorated, appearance. Rumours that Arthur will now be collaborating with Damien Hirst are, to the best of our knowledge, without foundation.

Our next luncheon is on 15th July when Dr. Robert Pleming will be our guest talking about the *Vulcan in the Sky* project. Members will again enjoy our annual gliding event at Haddenham with the Upward Bound Trust on Saturday 1st August, and it's also hoped to organise a visit to RAF Coningsby

in the autumn. Initiatives are under way to see if we can offer our members occasional flying related activities with other aviation and flying clubs. Our AGM will be held in late October, date to be advised.

The Aero Section is delighted to welcome guests to its functions & events, and especially happy to receive new members.

For further information, please contact the Honorary Secretary, Jeremy Cantwell. He can be reached by email on jcantwell@bbmax.co.uk or by phone on T: 020 8319 1964.

ANTIQUES CIRCLE



Cash in the Attic might pick up a point or two from members of the Antiques Circle. Our recent AGM was followed by a fascinating session at which members brought and talked about items from their collections. Beautiful small boxes, turned wooden objects and a mid-nineteenth century racing yacht print were all on display. So too was a volume of regimental history illustrated with colour plates. Military personnel had all been identified by name in the previous owner's handwriting.

The Circle hopes to organise another programme of four or five events over the coming year. At the AGM, Bob Davis stepped down as Chairman owing to heavy business commitments, and the Circle elected and welcomed George Capon as its new Chairman. Colin Wootton nobly agreed to continue as Treasurer. I have been obliged to retire as Secretary owing to severe family problems. At the moment, the Circle is thus without a Secretary, and we appeal to all Liverymen who read this report to consider whether they might be willing to take on the job. It is not onerous, but needs a bit of input from time to time. The Circle is great fun. Why not come and join us and take an active part?

Ivan Nellist - Past President

DISPOSAL OF CLUB PICTURES AND PRINTS

When the City Livery Club moved to the Baltic Exchange, space could not be found for a number of pictures and prints. Club Council instructed that these should be offered for sale to members, and quite a few were bought.

Two members, who shall be nameless, very kindly bought and paid for pictures which have been languishing in the Clerk's office ever since. We cannot store them without charge, indefinitely, and **give notice** that if they are not collected by the end of September, they will be offered for re-sale.

The remaining items, mainly larger pictures, are still available for purchase by Club members. A list can be obtained from the Clerk, Ann Cutter. This is a good opportunity to acquire a personal memento of the Club. It is also a last call! The offer is open until the end of September, following which the Club will consider itself free to offer these items on the open market. All proceeds go to Club funds.

**Ivan Nellist -
Past President**

TENNIS SECTION

Our Annual General Meeting was held on 4th March 2009 at the Queens Club. Mike Revell was elected Chairman; Ken Standish, Vice-Chairman; Dilip Kapur, Captain, and Peter Dreblow, Vice-Captain.

The Section enjoyed an afternoon of tennis at the RAC Club on 13th May, followed by dinner in the restaurant. Our thanks go to Annette Dreblow for organising the tennis. Unfortunately, our proposed visit to the National Tennis Centre on 27th May had to be cancelled. There will be a report on our annual visit to the City of London Freemen's School on 16th June, in the next issue.

Gillian Langstaff - Honorary Secretary

BRIDGE SECTION

There has been a proposal to restart the City Livery Club - Bridge section which has been inactive for a few years. The intention is to provide an opportunity to play duplicate Bridge in good company and a pleasant atmosphere. Plans will, of course, depend on the amount of support for such a venture. If you are interested would you please contact the clerk or alternatively email CreighArth@aol.com expressing your views and including your details.

If the response is encouraging arrangements will be made to hold a meeting for those who are interested in order to discuss the proposal. This would be immediately followed by a session of play.

Arthur Creighton



PHOTO SECTION

When you see this you may say: “..but I did not know we had a Photography Section in the City Livery Club”. You are so right, we do not have one. However, now is your opportunity to join with me in forming such a Section.

To join in with us, please send your name and address to Ann Cutter our Clerk at the Club and I will make contact with you early in September.

If we are successful in creating a Photography Section it is hoped that we will be able to take all the Club photographs for inclusion in the Newsletter. Indeed, as we gain experience we may be able to hire our services to Livery Companies and other clubs associated with the City Livery Club.

You do not need to be experienced but just interested and even if you do not own a camera, you are still welcome and maybe we can advise you on what to buy and where to get the best prices.

I look forward to hearing from you.

**David Rundle -
Immediate Past
President**

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SATURDAY 11TH JULY

Founder's Day Charity Cricket Match at Lords Cricket Ground.

MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

Civic Lunch with the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs in attendance, at TRINITY HOUSE.

TUESDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER

Second New Members Reception, Club Reading Room/Library 6 - 8.p.m.

THURSDAY 8TH OCTOBER

Combined City Livery Club and United Wards Club Jazz Evening on board HMS President, Victoria Embankment.

THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER

AGM & Installation Dinner - Saddlers' Hall.

SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

President's Reception following the Lord Mayor's Show on board HMS President, Victoria Embankment.

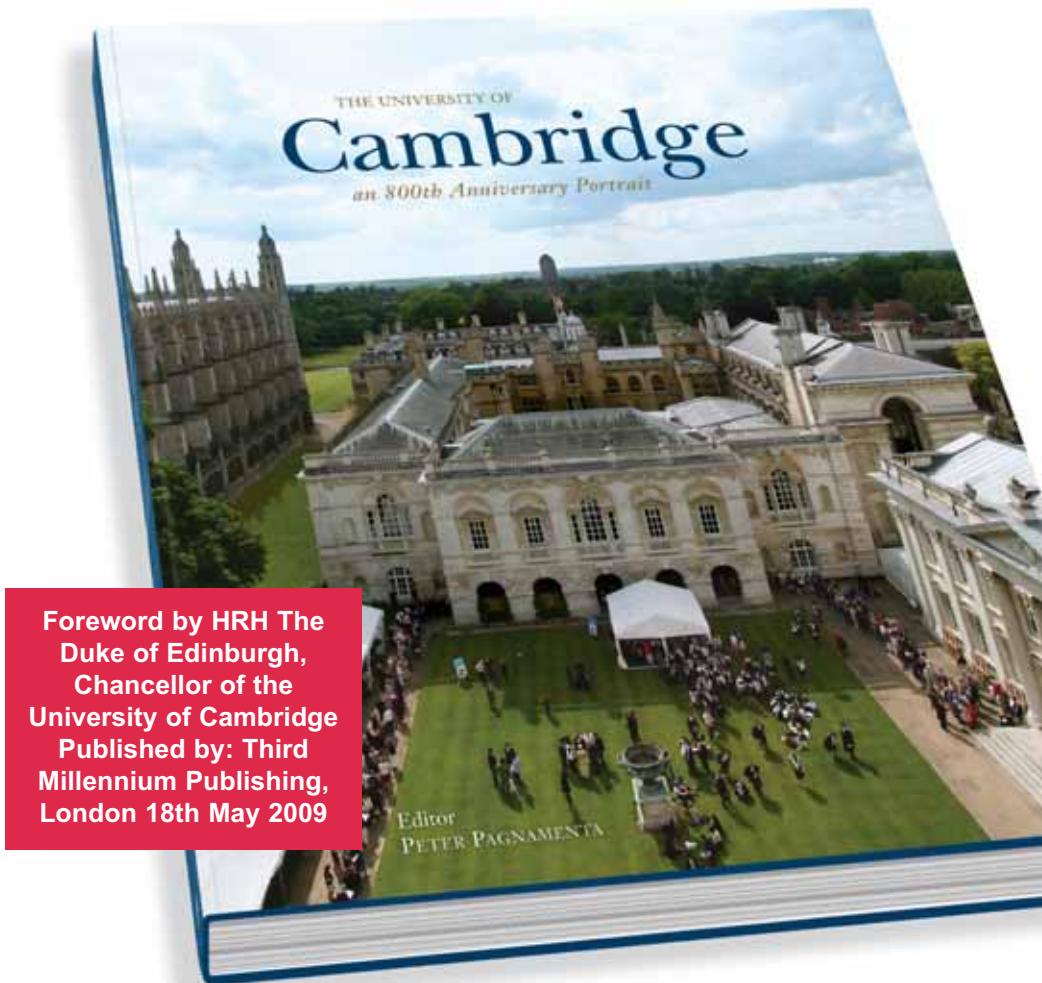
WEDNESDAY 16TH DECEMBER

Club Christmas Luncheon - Watermen's Hall.

MONDAY 25TH JANUARY 2010

Burns Night Supper, Caledonian Club, Belgravia.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE: AN 800TH ANNIVERSARY PORTRAIT



Foreword by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor of the University of Cambridge
Published by: Third Millennium Publishing, London 18th May 2009

E edited by Peter Pagnamenta, a Trinity Hall graduate and highly regarded documentary producer, this beautifully illustrated hardback book presents a unique account of a remarkable institution and the academic and extra-curricular strengths that make Cambridge what it is. Built around a variety of contributions the book is very much an anthology of many voices. Woven throughout are the first hand recollections of men and women who have passed through as undergraduates and research students. Their testimony, sometimes witty, often poignant, catches the mood of different eras and helps to convey the character of Cambridge. The 352 page

volume provides a lively sense of the range of the modern University: not just physics and mathematics, English and economics, but also the Footlights and the union, sport and music, and the nature of undergraduate life. In his foreword HRH The Duke of Edinburgh says: *"This book, with its anthology format, tries to catch the essence and character of modern Cambridge. I believe that, in doing that, as well as recording the academic achievements and research successes, it reflects the hopes and tensions, the concerns and anxieties of a vital and energetic organism."* At the London book launch Professor Alison Richard, Vice-

Copies of *The University of Cambridge: an 800th Anniversary Portrait* are available direct from Third Millennium Publishing on 020 7336 0144 or online from www.tmltd.com Alternatively copies can be ordered through UK booksellers.

Special Photography:
Hiroshi Shimur

RRP:
£45 (£37.50 to City Livery Club members)

ISBN:
978 1903942 659

Specification:
Hardback, 352 pages,
280 x 240 mm, over 550
illustrations and 150,000
words

Chancellor, the University of Cambridge said that the 800th anniversary volume was: "...an exciting and beautiful publication containing the voices of Cambridge, past and present...The challenge has been to produce an illustrated book which reflects both the essential seriousness of the subject matter, and the beauty of the place and the atmosphere of youthful excitement which linger in the memory of so many alumni. This has been brilliantly achieved."