



INAUGURAL LIVERY DINNER

THURSDAY, 25TH JANUARY 2007

DYERS' HALL
DOWGATE HILL, LONDON, EC4

Price: £70.00 per person

This inaugural event is being held at Dyers' Hall – once again meeting the Master's wish for the Company to visit a number of different Halls in his year of office.

PLEASE NOTE THAT GUESTS CANNOT ATTEND THIS FUNCTION – IT IS FOR MEMBERS ONLY AND IS RESTRICTED TO 50 ATTENDEES

The Dyers Company is held to have been somewhat profligate with their halls over the years. Traditionally, they believe their first hall was built in about 1482 in Anchor Lane, St. Martins in Vintry Ward. No records exist of this and its fate is not known, but in 1545, Sir Robert Tyrwhitt gave to the Company his great messuage in Upper Thames Street known as "The Three Stars" and Dyers Hall was constructed there. This did not survive the great fire of 1666.

However the Dyers bounced back and almost immediately rebuilt in the same place. The enthusiasm of the day is to be lauded but the new hall was again destroyed by fire in 1681. For the next fifty years, a somewhat chastened Company met in other halls or private houses until 1731 when two houses on the Company's Dowgate Hill Estate were converted. Regrettably and perhaps because of the unintended increased use of the structure, this hall fell down in 1763!

Never happier than when facing adversity, in 1768 the Dyers appointed a surveyor, one Mr. Jupp, who began construction of hall number 4 in 1769. This turned out not to be as well founded as Mr. Jupp had doubtless asserted and in 1831 another surveyor, one Charles Dyer, discovered why. Much of the foundation work had been on made-up ground and enclosed wooden sleepers, which had rotted away.

The upshot, not surprisingly, was that in 1840, hall number 4 was pulled down and work started on hall number 5 - the present one!

Their current hall has a much happier history and is in regular use. Opened in October 1842, it is amongst the smaller of the City Livery halls and has a comfortable, almost family atmosphere, not frequently met with elsewhere. Damaged during WWII, repairs were completed by 1948 and there has been regular refurbishment and redecoration since. Decoration makes much use of colour, as you would expect, typified by the Millennium window.

The Company's present-day activities are centred on continuing development of the craft of dyeing (nowadays largely chemistry). They are also known for their involvement, with the Vintners' Company, in the care of the swans on the River Thames nowadays taken as the non-tidal section above Teddington Lock. The annual Swan-Upping voyage is a particularly important event in the Dyers annual calendar.

The sparkling wine reception from 6.45 p.m. will be followed by a four course dinner with wines and port at 7.15 p.m.

Dress Code: Dinner Jacket (black tie) with white shirt
Livery Badges should be worn

Pour memoir tickets will not be issued

The closing date for applications is Wednesday, 10th January 2007.

Clerk of the Company: Michael A F Bizley
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To: Michael A F Bizley
Clerk of the Company, Worshipful Company of Environmental Cleaners
Number Six,
Grange Meadow,
Elmswell,
Bury St Edmunds, IP30 9GE

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THURSDAY, 25TH JANUARY 2007

Please reserve me.....places at £70.00 per person.

(Note – members only at this function)

I enclose my cheque payable to WCEC for £

Name(s) of those attending:

.....
.....

Special dietary requirements as follows:

.....

Signed

Name in Capitals

.....
.....

Post Code.....Tel No.....

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: STRICTLY WEDNESDAY, 10TH JANUARY 2007

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