



Clerk's Tidings

Newsletter of the Worshipful Company of Environmental Cleaners

August-September 2003.

RAMC AWARDS LUNCHEON IN THE CITY THIS YEAR – Monday, 22nd September

Continuing the Master's wish for the Company to meet at new venues this year, the Annual RAMC Awards Luncheon will be held at Barber Surgeons' Hall, Monkwell Square, Wood Street, London, EC2 on Monday, 22nd September 2003. This makes a change from visiting Camberley, and, is a most appropriate venue for a meeting with our 'adopted' military unit!

The Master is looking for a lot of support for this event, and gives the Company an opportunity to express our appreciation to the candidates for the Army Environmental Health Technicians Annual Awards for Excellence, who may well have been on active duty in Iraq. We have been making these two awards since 1997, one for Warrant Officers and Senior NCOs and the other for Junior NCOs and Other Ranks. Brigadier Alistair Macmillan, OHP MB ChB MPH FFPHM FCMI L/RAMC, Chief of Staff at the Defence Medical Education and Training Agency will be present, as will other RAMC officers. Sir Barry Jackson MS FRCS FRCP, a past President of The Royal College of Surgeons, currently President of the Royal Society of Medicine, and the Master of the Barbers' Company has also accepted the Master's invitation to attend, with his Clerk.

Full details and an application form are attached, which should be returned, with cheque to the Clerk, by not later than Monday, 8th September 2003 – guests will of course be most welcome – there should be no restriction on numbers.

NEW COMPANY TIE

Those of you with whom I am able to communicate by email will have already received notification concerning our new tie – in fact many of you have ordered one, in some cases two! Everybody speaks well of the new design – it is silk, has the Company Coat of Arms positioned just below the knot, and the blade has navy and blue stripes interspersed with a narrow silver stripe, all to match the Company colours. For those who are not yet able to use email, or do not wish to, I enclose an order form – they cost £25.00 which includes postage. Order now before the current stocks run out!

NEW LIVERYMEN

The following were 'clothed in livery' at the July Court, held at Ironmongers' Hall:

Anthony E Cole
David J Cole
Stephen J Cole
Dr Kevin J Lapwood
Mrs Caron E Neal
Mrs Wendy L Silvester

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NEW FREEMEN

The Master Admitted the following to the Freedom of the Company during the July Court meeting, held at Ironmongers' Hall:

Peter David Ager
Christopher Albrow
John Allen
Jonathan Baldwin
Lee Frost
Graham John Jones
Christopher John Klopper
Duncan Raymond Major

Peter Ager, John Allen and Duncan Major were already Freeman of the City of London, and will be invited to be 'clothed in livery' at an appropriate Court in the future.

ELECTION OF LORD MAYOR

We anticipate that our Honorary Freeman, Mr Alderman Robert Gerard Finch, will be elected Lord Mayor at Common Hall on Monday, 29th September. Any Liveryman of over one years' standing, who wishes to attend Common Hall, and has yet to apply for the appropriate pass to gain admission, should contact the Clerk immediately. Unfortunately, all the places allocated to us for the luncheon at Painters' Hall, following Common Hall, have been taken up.

PRESENTATION DINNER FOR THE LORD MAYOR ELECT – 16TH OCTOBER

If you are unable to attend Common Hall on 29th September, or the luncheon at Painters' Hall following, you have an ideal opportunity to meet with Mr Alderman Robert Finch, who we trust will be Lord Mayor elect by then, at our very special presentation dinner at Wax Chandlers' Hall on the evening of Thursday, 16th October 2003. This will be a 'Wax Chandlers' "pure beeswax" Candlelit Dinner' with their rather grand silver candelabra. Numbers will be limited to the accommodation at the Hall, and it will be 'black tie'. The Master will present a gift to the Alderman, especially chosen to honour his election to this great office.

Attached is an application form, which should be completed and returned to the Clerk with your cheque by not later than Wednesday, 1st October, bearing in mind it is on a first come first served basis.

LORD MAYOR'S APPEAL 2003-2004

After careful thought Mr Alderman Robert Finch has decided to support Arts and Music in education under the banner 'Arts and Music for Everyone', with the principle beneficiary the LSO's Discovery Programme. This will allow him not only to support the Arts in London but to use the theme in his travels to underline the importance of the Arts to London and to Londoners and to highlight its importance in the work carried out by our Schools and Universities. The St Luke's project, the brainchild of Clive Gillinson, is the very first ever orchestral musical education centre in this restored Grade 1 Hawksmoor Church and it is to be the centre of one of the most ambitious outreach programmes, the Discovery, in the country – a community music centre for both the immediate Islington area and other neighbouring and inner city boroughs. Other beneficiaries will include the LSSO, the Unicorn Theatre project, certain Whitechapel Art Gallery and Almeida education projects, and the City Art's trust for their work in the arts and education fields. Events will be few in number and discreet and almost entirely musical or artistic. The LSO Development Team will manage the appeal.

LADY MAYORESS'S APPEAL – 2003 CHRISTMAS MARKET

Please make a note in your dairies – this popular event in aid of the British Red Cross will be held at Guildhall between 24th and 26th November 2003. It will provide you with a good opportunity to do some Christmas shopping whilst contributing to the £100,000, which the Lady Mayoress is hoping to raise with this appeal.

THE ENVIRONMENT - EXHAUST TESTING PROGRAMME - DON'T FAIL!

City of London drivers risk being fined when the London-wide roadside vehicle exhaust-testing programme started in July – a scheme which aims to improve air quality. Drivers will be fined up to £60 if their vehicle fails these tests. Not only does a high emission count contribute to air pollution, but it also means that a car is performing inefficiently. London is one of the most polluted cities in the world, with the poor air quality said to cause more than 1,600 premature deaths each year from breathing problems and heart conditions. More information is available on the 'Smoking Kills' Website at www.alg.gov.uk/smokingkills

DOWRIES FOR CITY BRIDES!

The Port Health and Environment Services Committee is now seeking applications for 2003 from poor, honest brides born in the City of London or who have been residing in the City for at least one year. The Committee acts as Trustees for the Signor Pasquale Favale Bequest, which seeks each year to award a maximum of three marriage portions, or dowries, to poor, honest women. If there are more qualified applicants than available dowries, then the successful candidates are chosen by the drawing of lots!

THE CORPORATION AS PORT AUTHORITY

If you have watched 'Airport' on TV you will be aware of the Animal Reception Centre (ARC) at Heathrow. However, did you know that City's Port Health and Environmental Services Committee oversees the running of the ARC, which is open 24 hours every day, and has established itself as a world leader in the care of animals during transport. It receives and cares for over 650,000 animals of all types, from spiders to baby elephants, whilst they pass through Heathrow. In addition, the committee is responsible for Port Health matters, which include the Corporation's role as London Port Health Authority with responsibility for a district that extends for 94 miles (150 kilometres) along the tidal Thames from Teddington to the outer Estuary and includes the Ports of Tilbury and London City Airport.

CORPORATION'S BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN UNVEILED

The Corporation has published its first Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP), aimed at protecting and enhancing plant life, insects and animal habitats in the City. The three habitats selected are: City Gardens (the City has over 20.21 hectares of small gardens, churchyards and paved areas); Vertical habitats such as wall, terraces and roofs; Thames Foreshore, which acts as the southern boundary of the Square Mile from Tower Pier in the east to Temple Pier in the west. The three selected species are: The Black Redstart – one of Britain's rarest breeding birds with fewer than 100 pairs nesting in UK; The Peregrine Falcon – the fastest animal in the world, capable of speeds up to 124 mph; The House Sparrow – once among the most common birds in Britain, its numbers plummeted in London by 59% between 1994 and 2000. More details can be downloaded from: www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/livingenvironment/sustainability/citybap.htm

BRIDGE HOUSE GRANTS LAUNCH

London's largest making trust, the Bridge House Trust (BHT) has launched its new programme. Last year BHT distributed £18.7 million across London. In addition to earmarking the categories eligible for support – disabled people, children and young people, older people, London's environment and strengthening the voluntary and community sectors – the programme will also look to tackle specific issues like reducing the use of weapons by young

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people, alleviating the isolation of older people and ensuring that disabled access applies to all of a building rather than parts of it.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE CITY

City workers and residents can get information on over a thousand courses ranging from Aerobics to Zoology at the click of a mouse, from *Spotlight on the City*, the Corporation's on line guide to adult learning in and around the Square Mile. More information at www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/spotlight/

MUSEUM OF LONDON – DECADE THAT CHANGED LONDON

An Exhibition *1920'S: The Decade That Changed London* will open at the Museum of London on 17th October and will explore London and the lives of Londoners throughout the decade, looking particularly at American and Russian influences, from cinema to Bolshevism.

LIVEABLE CITY AWARDS – ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AWARD

Over the past three years, The Liveable City Awards have become a focal point for progressive businesses. The scheme, run by the Corporation of London, is a single Awards programme that is endorsed by independent organisations in the business of sustainable development; that has the absolute commitment of the Corporation and leading livery companies (including the Environmental Cleaners' Company); and that has attracted substantial support from the business community. No matter how large or small, all entries compete on an equal basis. This year they are asking entrants to tell about their achievements in one or more of the following categories: Sustainable and ethical investment and asset management (supported by the Corporation); Contribution to air quality (supported by the Fan Makers' Company); Traffic reduction and transport management (supported by the Carmen's Company); Energy management and conservation (supported by the Corporation); Water conservation (supported by the Water Conservators' Company and the Launderers' Company); The built environment (supported by the Chartered Surveyors' Company); Access (supported by the Pattenmakers' Company); and Environmental management (supported by our own Company).

Closing date for entries is 1st December 2003. Further information can be found at: www.cityoflondon.gov.uk.

OUR TEAM WINS GOLF COMPETITION

Congratulations to Peter Robb, Steve Wright, Colin Haworth and Andy Riddle, our Golf Team that won the LOGVEC Golf Day Competition, for the first time, and with a record score. The Clerk hears that Steve Wright came equal second on an individual score.

THE COMPANY'S GOLF SOCIETY DAY – 18TH SEPTEMBER

Time is running out if you have not already booked your place at the Company's Golf Society annual golf day on Thursday, 18th September, at The Oxfordshire Golf Club. Cost is £90 for members, and £95 for guests. Apply very soon to the Captain, Peter Robb on 0207 796 1881 or Email: Greencrestsales@aol.com

COLONEL JOHN RICHARDSON'S TRAVELS

Many of you will be acquainted with our Honorary Freeman Colonel John Richardson, late of the RAMC. Well he reports that since he left he has had a number of successful trips! Three lots of war widows and veterans to Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Libya. Two University Squadrons to the British Virgin Islands (and he managed to smuggle Susi on the trip as a student!). A week's skiing with Susi and 27 others in Austria, when he successfully braked using his face as a brake shoe! A wonderful 10 days studying the history of Roman and medieval medicine in Italy. And finally Nottingham where he has spent weeks on and off mobilizing recruits for the

Gulf War. "Retirement seems to be doing the same amount of work for a third of the pay", he concludes!

CITY OF LONDON FREEMAN'S SCHOOL – OUR PRIZES AWARDED

The Senior Warden, Paul R Michael and his wife Jacqui attended the School at Ashted Park, Surrey in early July, in the absence of the Master who was on holiday. The Deputy Head reports that they are immensely grateful for our Company's generosity, which enables a highly valued prize for Food Technology to be awarded each year, as well as prizes for Service to the School, which improves the environment. The Food Technology prize was awarded to Laura Scott; prizes for Service were awarded to Matthew Doughty and Eleanor Steel. Matthew volunteered to organise a system for lost property, Eleanor organised the cleaning rota for the Sixth Form Common Room – both apparently doing a brilliant job.

THE CITY'S NEW VOTING SYSTEM

Court Assistant Issa Tahhan and Liveryman Elliot Bishop represented the Company at a presentation for Livery Companies on 2nd July. They have produced a very detailed report (eleven pages), which can be obtained from the Clerk for those of you who are interested, either by email or hard copy. In summary the changes are:

The Existing Voting System – there are two categories of voters: residents, like everywhere else – currently numbering around 6,000 votes; and sole traders and partners in conventional partnerships – these currently number around 15,000 votes. The City is divided into 25 wards, each electing to the Court of Common Council one Alderman for six years, and a number of Members for one year every December. The Court is the governing body of the Corporation and currently numbers 132 Aldermen and Members.

The New System: Last November, the City of London (Ward Elections) Act became law and brought the new voting system into effect. It retains the residential vote unchanged; retains the existing vote for sole traders and partners, but tightens up the rules to remove anomalies and potential for abuse; and introduces a vote for the first time for limited liability companies and other organisations. Under this new system each company – "appointing body" – is entitled to appoint a certain number of individuals to cast a vote in City elections on its behalf. The number of voters depends on the size of the workforce in each of the separate premises which they occupy and follows a sliding scale, with one vote for a workforce of 1-9 at one end of the scale and as many as 71 votes for a workforce over 3,000 at the other end. This includes Livery Halls and offices in the City. They can appoint as voters current employees, former employees who meet the criteria, or former employees elsewhere in the City in certain particular circumstances. The individuals appointed must be at least 18 years of age and a citizen of UK, or another Commonwealth or EU country on the qualifying date. These individuals vote in the normal way – either in person at the ballot box, or by post. The first elections under the new system are next March, but the new voting list has to be completed between July and October. Appointed voters will also be entitled to stand as candidates in Corporation elections. There are some broad guidelines on how to appoint voters. Most important, so far as is reasonably practicable, the appointments made – if more than one – should reflect the overall composition of the workforce. The workforce needs to know that the process is underway so they can have a chance to express an interest in taking part.

Why take part: This is all very interesting but why should City organisations take part? First, the new system extends the vote to City businesses and makes the Corporation representative of the modern 21st century City. It thus justifies keeping the Corporation as the dedicated provider of local government for the City. Without this reform, the Government would have transferred the Corporation to one or more of the surrounding Boroughs. Second, this provides a real chance for City businesses to have a direct say, rather than just be consulted, although this process will continue unchanged. Third, voters will be able to help choose the Members of the Court of Common Council. More information can be found at www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/voting

NEW TOWN CLERK APPOINTED

Following the retirement of Tom Simmons after 20 years service to the Corporation, Chris Duffield, 51, has been formally appointed as the Corporation's new Town Clerk. He is currently chief executive of the London Borough of Bexley but will begin his new role in the autumn.

ISSA-INTERCLEAN, AMSTERDAM 2004

For those of you who like to visit Interclean at the RAI in Amsterdam every other year please make a note of the dates – 11th-14th May 2004.

GET YOURSELF HEARD

Everyone has their own ideas of how the City of London could be improved – and the Corporation wants to hear them all! Workers, residents or visitors, young or old – everyone's opinion matters in creating a Community Strategy for London. To add your views on current issues or suggest improvements visit: www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/communitystrategy

NEW COMPANY INDUCTION PROGRAMME – 22nd January 2004

The Membership Services Committee under the chairmanship of the Junior Warden, Mike Poulter, have been busy putting together a very detailed induction programme for new members of our Livery. Those of who have joined over the past couple of years or so will, in due course, be receiving a formal invitation to attend Tallow Chandlers' Hall on Thursday, 24th January 2004, together with your partners, for an evening's introduction to the Livery generally and our Company in particular. There will probably be a cocktail reception and buffet at a reasonable cost. Do make a note in your diary – now.

DISCOVER YOUR CITY

'The City is an extraordinary place. Minute by minute phenomenal financial deals are made which reverberate around the world. This is the heart of global business – the best. It is a vital and exciting place, but not just because of its business. It is a fabulous place to be – a place which feeds the mind and the emotions, that stimulates, entertains and educates – a place where people live, a place people take a ten minute stroll – or come thousands of miles – to visit, a place with a buzz and beauty to enrich its daily business and a boundless invitation to discover its contrasts and surprises.' Not the Clerk's words but the introduction to a very useful pocket-sized booklet the Corporation has published to encourage those who live, work and visit there to explore – to find out more about what the City has to offer. For a copy 'phone the Public Relations Office at Guildhall on 020 7332 3099. Or look up www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/yourcity

BUILDING CLEANABILITY AWARDS 2003-2004

Promoted by the Company, with BCC as Awards Patron and sponsored by the CSSA, BICSc and Karcher, this years Building Cleanability Awards is under way. If you wish to nominate a building please contact our Awards Director, Liveryman Richard Chisnell at PO Box 17, Winchester, SO23 9WL or email: information@cleanabilityawards.co.uk. You can also visit the Website: www.cleanabilityawards.co.uk It is anticipated that the awards ceremony will take place with a luncheon at Guildhall on Monday, 12th July 2004 – when we hope that the Lord Mayor will present the prizes.

DIARY DATES

14TH November 2003 – Ladies' Banquet – Merchant Taylors' Hall

24th November 2003 – Court and Company Luncheon – Wax Chandlers' Hall

END

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