



Clerk's Tidings

Newsletter of the Worshipful Company of Environmental Cleaners

July-August 2006.

RAMC AWARDS LUNCHEON – SADDLERS' HALL – Monday, 25th September 2006

This year we are once again inviting the RAMC personnel back to the City of London, and the Master is also taking the opportunity for the Company to visit another Livery Hall. He has chosen Saddlers' Hall, which is situated at 40 Gutter Lane, just off Cheapside, EC2.

The Court will also meet that same morning at Saddlers' Hall at 10.15 to admit some new Freemen, and, conduct any urgent business.

The first Saddlers' Hall was built on 'Westcheap', on land still occupied by the present Hall, in about 1380. That Hall perished in the Great Fire of 1666. A second Hall rose from the ashes but that, too, burnt down in 1820. The third Hall lasted until 1940 when it was destroyed by bombing and the present Hall was completed in 1958. The Architect, Silvester Sullivan, considered it his finest achievement! If you have never been to Saddlers' Hall, now's your chance!

Full details and an application form are attached, which should be returned, with cheque to the Clerk by not later than Monday, 11th September – guests will of course be most welcome and there should be plenty of room for everybody! A number of military guests are expected.

CITY WALK – VICTORIAN RIVERSIDE – Wednesday, 27th September 2006

This purely social event is similar to the successful occasion last year. Your guide is once again the City Blue Badge holder, Neil Morley, and this time he is intending to take you on a Victorian Riverside Walk. You start at Tower Bridge Underground Station and end up at the Lord Raglan 'pub' in Aldersgate Street for supper and a quiz – to see if you have remembered all that Neil has told you during the two hour walk – its actually only just over a mile – I am told!

Again, full details together with an application form are attached, and should be returned to the Clerk by not later than Friday, 15th September.

COMMON HALL – ELECTION OF LORD MAYOR – Friday, 29th September 2006

Any liveryman of over one year's standing is entitled to attend, but requires a pass to gain access to the Great Hall at Guildhall, which can be obtained from the Clerk using the application form attached. We normally attend a luncheon afterwards at Painters' Hall, and attendees at Common Hall should indicate their wish to do this on the same form, which is to be returned to the Clerk by not later than Monday, 11th September.

The nominations for the Mayoralty are a slightly different this year but it will take nothing away from the pageantry of the event. The nomination for this next year is the current Sheriff, Alderman John Stuttard (Glazier), with the recently appointed Aldermanic Sheriff for next year, Alderman David Lewis (Solicitor), to follow for nomination to be Lord Mayor in 2007-08. Currently there are three further names on the list to be considered for a later year: Aldermen, Nick Anstee (Butcher), John Hughesdon (Cooper) and David Mauleverer (Air Pilot and Air Navigator).

COMPANY GOLF SOCIETY – Wednesday, 27th September 2006

This year's Golf Day is being held at Ashridge Golf Club, Berkhamstead on Wednesday, 27th September. The format is:

Arrive at 8.00 am for coffee and bacon rolls.
First tee off at 8.30 am – playing 18-hole individual Stapleford
Light snack lunch, followed by a 9-hole team competition
Followed by a 3 course dinner and presentations – finish between 8 and 9 pm.

The cost is £115 for a member of the Company and £120 for guests – who are welcome.

Application forms have been distributed earlier but in case you are still interested and have mislaid it I attach another, which should be returned to the Captain, Court Assistant Peter Robb, as soon as possible. Don't forget to order your Company Golf Cap or Umbrella – see later item!

PAST MASTERS' DINNER – 19th October 2006

Then third annual Past Masters' Dinner will take place in the Court Room of Cutler's Hall starting at about 6.30 pm on Thursday, 19th October 2006. They will be advised.

CHANGE OF DATE FOR NOVEMBER COURT 2006 – now 30th October 2006.

By special request of the Master, this has been rearranged from 6th November to Monday, 30th October 2006 at Armourers' Hall. This will enable the Master and Clerk, with all the other Livery Companies, to attend the annual Royal British Legion Service of Remembrance at St Paul's Cathedral, with the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs and Corporation. The Master will place a cross on behalf of the Company.

HOSTING MODERN COMPANIES DINNER – Monday, 11th September 2006

The Master and Senior Warden will host this biannual event, which is only for Masters and Senior Wardens of the Modern Livery Companies, all those from the Master Mariners No.78 to Tax Advisors at No. 107. The Clerk, who is organising the event on this occasion, has arranged for Mr Murray Craig, the Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court to be the guest speaker. We should not have to organise this event again until about the year 2015, as it will be done in accordance with the order of precedence starting next spring with Farmers No.80.

MASTER'S SPONSORED WALK OF ALL 40 CITY LIVERY HALLS

This unique event took place on Thursday, 1st June 2006 and seven members of the Company, and three lady scrutinisers, who also photographed the team outside each hall, supported the Master. The walkers took breakfast at Armourers' Hall, coffee at Furniture Makers, and lunch at Bakers. Mr Mark Grove of The Cook & Butler caterers kindly provided the breakfast and lunch at no cost. The walkers were well received at many of the halls, with 'suitable refreshment' in the afternoon at Painters, Saddlers and Grocers' Halls. Mercers also gave each walker two books about the history of their company.

The amount of money collected for the Company's Charity Fund to date is over £5,800 and there may be further promises to be fulfilled.

Also, the Master is offering a case of 6 bottles of champagne for the lucky winner of the estimated distance walked from Armourers' Hall round the other 39 Halls and back. Guesses for the estimate to be £5.00 each, money going to the Company's Charity Fund, and sent to either the Master or Clerk with the winner announced at Lunch on 25 September 2006.

COMPANY REGALIA – FOR SALE

The Clerk has a number of items in stock, which is pleased to despatch on receipt of payment:

Clerk of the Company: Michael A F Bizley
Number Six, Grange Meadow, Elmswell, Bury St Edmunds, IP30 9GE
Telephone & Fax: 01359 242947; Mobile: 07766 232903
Email: michael.bizley@environmentalcleaners.com
www.environmentalcleaners.com

Company Ties – priced at £25.00 – silk with dark and light blue stripes and the Company Crest – a number of other Companies have remarked how nice they look!

Company Umbrellas – priced at £25.00 – with white and blue panels and the Company Crest and name on two of the white panels. Ideal for golfers!

Company Shields – priced at £48.00 – they are 7” x 6” and the Company’s Crest is hand-painted in the form of a plaque on the shield. Would make nice presents – and look good on the wall of your office! I have 10 coming into stock shortly – so first come first served!

Company Golf Caps – priced at £17.50 – each has the Company’s Crest embroidered on the front. They come in blue or beige, so please state colour required when ordering.

New Livery Badge – priced at £40.00 – these are new and will replace the original medals. All new liverymen are now being presented with the new badge. Those liverymen ‘clothed in livery’ earlier may purchase the new one. It will be worn hanging from the left lapel when attending livery functions where badges are asked for. It is not for use outside the Livery. The new badge is about 1.5 inches long and is a cut to shape badge in enamel as per the shape of the Company’s Armorial Bearings (Crest or Coat of Arms depending on how you describe it!). The badge hangs from a bar with the word ‘Liveryman’ in gilt through blue enamel to match the blue of the badge. They come in a medal wallet. For Lady Liverymen, they make a very nice small brooch to wear at livery functions. The original medals may still be worn.

Let the Clerk know of your requirements – by post with payment - and your item will be despatched to you within the week, subject to availability.

NEW FREEMEN

The following have been Admitted to the Freedom of the Company in accordance with custom:

At the May Court:
Anthony Peter Dillon
Claire Therese Fowler
Bradley Stewart Reames
John Ernest Spratt

At the July Court:
Mrs Sarah Jane Plumridge
Stewart John Stennett

NEW LIVERYMEN

The following have been ‘clothed in livery’ in accordance with custom:

At the May Court:
David Stanley Reames

At the July Court:
Keith McLean Aldis
Scott Robert Michael
Robert Vincent

NEW ASSISTANTS

Two new Court Assistants, having been elected at the February Court, were admitted at the May Court:

Mrs Wendy Silvester
Neil Young

DAIRY DATES 2006-TO 2008

Attached is a listing of various events through to April 2008 that you may wish to put in your diary – now! Some are of course still awaiting final confirmation due to being so far ahead.

MAY COURT AND LUNCH – REPORT

Some of the outcomes of the May Court are:

The Master presented Past Master Michael O'Connor with his Emeritus badge.

Livery numbers were reported as at 31 March 2006 as:

Freemen	45
Liverymen	201
Hon Freeman	9
Hon Asst	3
Apprentices	4
Total	262

(Last year at this time the numbers stood at 241)

The Company's year-end estimated balance sheet should show assets of some £115,000, subject to the auditors' final approval. It was noted that the original investments had reached their end term and had been reinvested in the Morgan Stanley Quilter Managed Portfolio and was of a book cost of £54,032.

A new company brochure was in the making and should be ready for publication by the autumn.

The Membership Services Committee were preparing a PowerPoint presentation pack for use as a recruitment aide and in this regard much assistance was being provided by Neil Morley, the London Blue Badge guide, who had made a number of presentations at recent new members' evenings.

The Company Archivist, PME & HA Eric Green, reported that he anticipated being able to provide a brief summary of the first 10 years of the Company's history in the autumn and it would be available electronically from the Clerk.

It was agreed that the Clerk would up-date the Company's protocol document bearing in mind one or two unfortunate incidents at the installation banquet.

Ten visiting Masters, 4 with their Clerks, attended the traditional annual Masters' Lunch, each of them making a four-minute speech about their company.

JULY COURT – REPORT

Some of the outcomes of a brief July Court held at The Brewery, Chiswell Street, are:

The Company is to research the potential to support a London Army Cadet Unit –probably Badged as RAMC.

Also, to take forward the opportunity extend our relationship with City & Guilds of London Institute, especially with their Corporate Community Involvement Programme.

The Court approved the Master's suggestion that we hold a 'Livery Dinner' – probably in January 2007 to which only members of the Company are able to attend – there being no guests, other than perhaps a speaker of note. If successful it will become an annual event.

The Court further approved another suggestion put forward by the Master for a 'Partners only Lunch' at Armourers' Hall, hosted by him, the Deputy Master and the two Wardens to which only partners of the members (male or female) be invited. Again, if successful it is to become an annual event.

BUILDING CLEANABILITY AWARDS PRESENTATION AND LUNCH - REPORT

Over 400 people attend the Brewery in Chiswell Street, London for this biennial event, now one of the premier events in the industry's social calendar. There had been 89 building nominations from 27 different nominating companies. Of the 10 entry categories, only one failed to attract a nomination. The largest number of nominations was in the Commercial Building category with 43%; with Retail at 17% and Education at 11%. It augured well for the future of the awards that over 70% of nominated buildings were from outside London. As assessment experience increases, it is becoming clear that there is every prospect of creating a set of 'Building Cleanability Guidelines'. The Brian Cole Environmental Award was presented for the first time, which reflected an assessment of a building's capability of meeting user safety and comfort expectations. Mrs Joli Cole, Past Master Emeritus Brian's widow, and their son David, both Liverymen of the Company, attended.

The Court unanimously thanks the awards patron, sponsors, and Corporate Champions for their generous support of the programme, and, especially record their appreciation of Court Assistant Richard Chisnell, the Awards Executive Director.

It should be noted that the Great Hall at Guildhall had been booked for the 2008 awards.

INTER LIVERY CLAY PIGEON SHOOT

Another clay shoot was held at the Holland & Holland Shooting Grounds in North London in mid-May, now one of the largest and most successful inter livery events. The income for this independent event was £53,460.00, with expenditure of £47,728.52, leaving a surplus of £5,731.48, of which £5,375 was or would be donated to various Charities, many being other Livery Company nominations having won prizes at the event. The Lord Mayor's Appeal will be receiving £1,000, which would be sent with a letter from the Master of the Company.

The Court wish to record their appreciation of the good work carried out each year by Court Assistant Chris Parr and his wife, Liveryman Sandra Parr. The Court also noted that the Master's team did not come last!

INTER LIVERY GOLF

The Society's Captain, Court Assistant Peter Robb, reports that a Company team had come 33rd out of 52 teams entered in the Inter Livery Prince Arthur Cup, and would therefore be invited back next year. In defending the Horner's Trophy, won last year, we had come 4th this year. The Company will be entering a team in the LOGVEC tournament on 4th August. The Annual Golf Society Day would be held at Ashridge on 27th September – see details on page 2 of these tidings.

CORNWALL AND THE CITY

The Master, with five other members of the Company with their ladies supported the Lord Mayor on his visit to Cornwall, which involved a black tie dinner at Cabilla Manor with the Lord Lieutenant and High Sheriff, and, a parade in the main ring of the Royal Cornwall Show immediately following the prize heifers! We were the only Company with a flag in that parade of some 66 City Livery Company Masters, Wardens and Clerks.

The participants also attended a reception at Mansion House, when Cornwall came to the City through a special market at Leadenhall Market, attended by the Prince of Wales.

MASTER'S WEEKEND AWAY

This inaugural social weekend took place at the Links Country Park Hotel and Golf Course, West Runton, North Norfolk. Some played a round of golf on the Friday afternoon before a relaxing dinner in the hotel restaurant. In particular there was a very successful visit to the Muckleborough Collection at Weybourne (a tank/military museum owned by Sir Michael Savory – Lord Mayor 2004-2005, who was kind enough to provide a personal guided tour) on the Saturday including a draw at £10 per ticket for opportunity to drive a tank – an two lady members did – Jennie Harvey and Maureen Marden! Everybody was back to the hotel in time to watch the England match! We had a black tie dinner, with Sir Michael as guest, with music and dancing. A late breakfast on Sunday before we went our different ways. 14 people attended although had 17 people agreed to participate but 3 had to withdraw at the last moment due to illness. A similar event is being organised for next year – so watch this space!

MASTER AND CLERK ATTEND RAMC AWARD WINNERS LUNCHEON

The Master and Clerk recently attended RAMC HQ at Camberley to listen to presentations from two recent winners of the EHT award, and, one doctor for the GP Prize. The Director General, Major General Alan Hawley and Brigadier Jennie Wells hosted them, and other RAMC officers were present, as was our Honorary Freeman Professor John Richardson. A pleasant lunch was taken in the Medal Room. The RAMC are hoping to make this an annual event.

COMMON HALL – ELECTION OF SHERIFFS

Some dozen members of the Company were present at Guildhall to witness the Master take his place in the procession, and, to see Alderman David T R Lewis (Solicitor) and Mr Richard D Regan (Cutler) elected Sheriffs of the City and to take office on 28th September. We joined other livery companies for the usual lunch at Painters' Hall.

OBITUARY – S John Holt – Honorary Freeman and Clerk 1987-1998

It is with much regret that I have to tell you of the death on Sunday, 9th July 2006 of our Honorary Freeman, S John Holt, who was Clerk to the Company from 1987 to 1998. John had also been Clerk to the Horners' Company, and, the Tin Plate Workers alias Wire Workers.

I quote from the notice in 'The Times', which said that John sadly passed away on 9th July after a short illness. He is survived by his wife Anne, and three daughters, Sarah, Ruth and Rachel, "who miss him dearly".

John's funeral was a private family affair, with no flowers or donations - John's wish. I have spoken briefly with Rachel who will let me know if there is to be a memorial service later.

LADIES' BANQUET - A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES – 24th November

Please note that the ladies Banquet will this year take place on Friday, 24th November at Merchant Taylors' Hall, which is in Threadneedle Street.

QUARTERAGE 2006-2007 – DIRECT DEBITS IN FUTURE

Although the majority of you kindly pay by standing order – and this is much appreciated – there are still several members who do not. Also, there are some with standing orders who have failed to up-date them and therefore the Quarterage you are paying is incorrect. Whichever one of these you are, the Clerk would appreciate early payment of £140 or £70 for those over retirement age and no longer working. This will save a few 'credit control' letters shortly! Also, you might wish to note that the Court have approved the future collection of Quarterage by Direct Debit, and the Clerk will be writing to you all in the Autumn with the new forms for you to sign. All recently admitted members have signed up, and there should be no exceptions for existing members?

I HOPE YOU ARE HAVING A WONDERFUL SUMMER HOLIDAY! See you on 25 September?