



# Clerk's Tidings

Newsletter of the Worshipful Company of Environmental Cleaners

NOVEMBER 2006

LADIES BANQUET – FRIDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2006

This prestigious event is this year being held at Merchant Taylors' Hall - meeting the Master's wish for the Company to visit a number of different Halls in his year of office. The Merchant Taylors' Company alternates with the Skinners' Company each year as 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in the order of precedence and is No 6 this year as the Company is the Lord Mayor's mother Livery. Merchant Taylors' is one of the finest Livery Halls in London. The Great Hall has twice been destroyed by fire – during the Great Fire of 1666 and by incendiary bombs in 1940 – but on each occasion the walls and foundations survived and were incorporated in the restored Hall. Prominent features are the mahogany panelling in the Livery Hall and the Renatus Harris Organ installed in 1966.

The sparkling wine reception from 6.45 p.m. will be followed at 7.15 p.m. by a four course dinner with coffee, wines and port, followed by a stirrup cup just before carriages at about 10.30 pm. The annual General Practice Prize for the RAMC will be presented to Captain Mike Smith the presence of a number of distinguished guests including Senior RAMC Officers and Masters of other Livery Companies. Pupils from the City of London School for Girls will provide a musical interlude. The Steinway piano in the Drawing Room and organ in the Livery Hall will be played by Gavin Hughes, a nephew of the Master.

The Master has arranged for the fashion and social historian, Rosemary Hawthorne, to be our speaker. Ever since she could first walk and talk, Rosemary knew she had to be an actress. Luckily her parents indulged her in her passion and she won a scholarship to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA) at seventeen. A medallist, she was also one of the Academy's youngest students, training with such luminaries as Susannah York, Sarah Miles, John Thaw and Edward Fox. At 21 she met and married John and her career came to a sudden end. Children quickly followed – seven in all. In the meantime John had a mid-life crisis and became a priest. But Rosemary's love of the theatre and particularly costume persisted and over time the Rosemary Hawthorne Collection became a reality and so began the 'Shows'. She wrote 'Knickers: An intimate Appraisal' some twenty years ago - the first of her underwear trilogy. However, 'Knickers: A brief History of Unmentionables' became what everybody wanted to hear – and see. A few years ago, John, dubbed the The Knicker Vicar retired to manage Rosemary. He drives her everywhere together with her battered suitcase of knickers and other goodies. As a brilliant, entertaining and highly amusing performer, Rosemary has cleverly combined her gift as an actress and her love of costume. You can expect a truly entertaining speaker.

An application form is attached, with a closing date of Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2006.

LIVERY DINNER – 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2007

The Court has approved the Master's initiative to introduce a new event to our calendar. A Livery Dinner is to be held at Dyers' Hall in Dowgate Hill, on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2007. It will be 'black tie' with only members of the Company present, except perhaps for an eminent speaker. Details and an application form are attached, to be returned to the Clerk with payment by not later than Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2007.

## RAMC – ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TECHNICIAN AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

We had one of the best turnouts ever for these prestigious annual awards presentation, held this year at Saddlers' Hall, Gutter Lane, EC2 on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2006. The Master presented purses and medals to WO1 Danny Grant and Corporal Chris Stout. Brigadier John Graham, President of the Selection Board, Lt Col Kenneth Roberts head of the Environmental Health Cadre, Major Douglas Ralph and Major Phill Wright were also present. WO 1 Danny Grant's citation read:

WO1 Danny Grant is coming to the end of his prestigious career as an Environmental Health Technician. The fact that he leaves the British Army in the highest rank achievable for a non-commissioned officer speaks of his high calibre. However, this does nothing to articulate the endless commitment he has made over his career to the Environmental Health Cadre.

Over the past 21 years, WO1 Grant has seen service all over the world, serving in most of the operations during that period. He has been personally responsible for the training of Environmental Health Technicians, including all of the past recipients of the Worshipful Companies junior award and all but two of those who have been awarded senior award. During this period, WO1 Grant has trained, mentored, encouraged and developed technicians, some of which have gone on to become Commissioned Officers, in some of the most difficult of operational circumstances. His endearing nature and natural leadership style motivate people to do what is required of them, bringing out the very best in them at the time it's most needed.

During operations, he has been the 'linchpin' by which the team holds together. This was never more evident than during his last tour in Iraq on Op TELIC, where he was selected as the Logistic Branch SSM, in competition against 12 other Warrant Officers from the RLC. The reporting officer, himself in the RLC, stated, "he was the natural choice". Furthermore, the same report stated it was his actions, in his unrelenting quest to educate the chain of command, which were specifically responsible for the lowest incidence of disease since the operation began.

Always willing to act on his initiative, WO1 Grant has planned; organised and effectively ensured priorities have been met, regardless of the constraints placed on the service. He has played an instrumental role in the developments made in military environmental health, most recent of which was the Complete Health & Safety and Environment programme (CHASE), soon to be adopted by Land Command for use during Medical Force Protection audits of all LAND units. A naturally fit and active soldier, he has been for many years an active member of both the RAMC Corps football and Golf teams and he continues to play sport at a competitive level, only last year he qualified as a military ski instructor, exemplifying to younger soldiers; 'you're never too old'.

WO1 Grant is a quintessential Warrant Officer, firm but fair. He has been a model soldier and Environmental Health Technician, who has always led from the front and continues to do so. His adult life has been the Army and indeed the Army Environmental Health Cadre, which he has help to shape into the professional cadre of today and to which he has given so much. In short, his contribution to the health of the Army has been outstanding.

For his commitment and contribution to the Army Environmental Health Cadre, I respectfully submit this application for consideration by the Board.

Cpl Chris Stout's citation reads:

Cpl Stout has been in the Army for 11 years, 8 of which were with the infantry before he re-traded to the Environmental Health Cadre. Since transferring to the Cadre he has dedicated himself with aplomb to promoting health within 4<sup>th</sup> Division. This Junior Non Commissioned Officer is a natural leader amongst his peers and easily gains the respect of those around him. Through his direct and no nonsense approach he has become a great asset, utterly reliable and extremely keen to take on responsibility, often standing in for SNCO's in their absence.

Cpl Stout is a prolific individual always ensuring that he is busy and actively looking for work to develop himself and his junior staff professionally. In particular it is his work on devising a Communicable Disease Action Plan for the Division for which he is most noted. Early on in his tour, he recognised quickly that the EHT were not investigating outbreaks in a consistent manner. He therefore set about developing a standard operating procedure that could be used in the investigation of all disease types, following the protocol laid down in the Surgeon and Director General's Policy Letter. This was completed quickly and without being too prescriptive, denuding the professional ability of the investigating technician. Thus was born an admirable easy to follow document, worthy of a much higher and more experienced technician. This included using Epi Data software in producing a model investigation questionnaire. In addition to developing this SOP, he personally ensured that all the equipment and systems were in place so that the procedure could be applied practically. It should be noted that this work was carried out in addition to his already intense and highly productive work routine.

Cpl Stout is a fine example of a Soldier; however, he has also proved himself an exceptional technician in a trade which requires constant revising and upgrading to keep pace with advances in legislation and technology. This award would be fitting recognition for a Junior Non Commissioned Officer who stands head and shoulders above his peers.

WO1 Grant received a cheque for £400 and Cpl Stout one for £350, in addition to the medals, which are in a presentation case and bear the Company's Coat of Arms on the front and the RAMC badge on the obverse. The medals were designed and made for us by Garrard's the Crown Jewellers.

#### NOVEMBER COURT – IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR!

This was held as usual at our 'lodgings' - Armourers' Hall – on Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> October. The change of date was to enable the Master to represent the Company at the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance and laying of crosses at St Paul's Cathedral on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> November in the presence of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, and other Livery Masters and Clerks.

Six Freemen were 'clothed in livery' at the Court, and some 80 members and guests attend the following luncheon. The Deputy Master of the Honourable Company of Master Mariners, Captain Keith Hart responded on behalf of the guests and in doing so told us all why he is the Deputy Master and not the Master – who is currently HRH The Princess Royal! His Clerk, Commander Rodney Craig RN, accompanied Capt Hart. The Master Elect of the Lightmongers was also present.

#### COMPANY REGALIA – FOR SALE

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

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

Admitted at the September Court held in Saddlers' Hall prior to the presentation of the RAMC Awards:

Keith Miles Barnes  
Michael Andrew Egerton  
David Furlong  
Ashley John Hoadley  
Anthony Frederick Vockins  
Colin John Winch  
James Iain Yorston

#### NEW LIVERYMEN

Admitted and 'clothed in livery' at the Court in Armourers' Hall on 30<sup>th</sup> October:

Claire Therese Fowler  
Sarah Jane Plumridge  
Bradley Stewart Reames  
Warwick Stephenson  
Richard Philip Ward  
Colin John Winch

#### SEPTEMBER COURT REPORT

Court Assistant Mrs Angela Starling

The Master advised the Court that Court Assistant Mrs Angela Starling had recently been elected a Common Councillor for the Cripplegate Without Ward of the City of London Corporation.

Catering at Installation Banquet 2006

The Master reported that following meetings with Searcys, the caterers, attended by himself and the Clerk, it had been agreed, and they had given, a credit of £3,000 plus VAT in respect of the complaints concerning quality of food and service on the occasion of the Installation Banquet held on 7<sup>th</sup> April at Mansion House.

Modern Livery Companies Dinner

The Master reported that he and the Senior Warden had hosted a most successful Modern Livery Companies Dinner at Armourers' Hall on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> September. 28 of the Modern Companies had been represented through the 53 Masters and Wardens in attendance. Mr Murray Craig, Clerk of the Chamberlain's Court, had given an entertaining speech after dinner. Three musicians from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama had also provided a most pleasant musical interlude. The Master reported many letters of thanks and appreciation for an event well planned and executed by the Company's Clerk.

Accidental Damage to Armourers' Hall Property

The incident happened when our Beadle was moving some furniture to gain access to some chairs from behind a table in the Drawing Room, when a heavy brass (or bronze) candlestick fell from a free standing pillar onto a table, breaking the former into four parts (of which one small part appears to be missing) and producing a deep gouge in the latter.

The candlestick is one of a pair Dutch 18<sup>th</sup> century bronze Pricket Candlesticks with a valuation of £3,000. The table is one of two sections of the Livery Hall 'horseshoe layout' dining tables removed to the drawing room for the evening, with a valuation of £25,000 for the complete set.

Claim since confirmed at approximately £350.

City Walk – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2006

The Deputy Master reported that only 7 members had responded to the invitation to participate in a City Walk with a 'pub' supper to follow.

Building Cleanability Awards 2006

Court Assistant Graham Jones reported a successful outcome to the programme, being the most successful of the six held since 1995/96. 425 people attended the presentation lunch held at The Brewery on 10<sup>th</sup> July, with Barry Cryer the guest speaker. The awards were managed within budget with a total net income of £80,931.51 against an expenditure of £79,900.00, leaving a surplus of £1,031.49. The awards attracted six major sponsors and total of 24 corporate Champion Supporters, who, together with generous patronage of the BCC, contributed a total of £50,000 towards the income budget. The presentation luncheon income totalled £30,706.50 against function expenditure of £38,680.76, the shortfall being covered by an allocation from the main awards budget. 5 associated professional bodies namely; BIFM, CIOB, CIWM, RICS and HSE also supported this programme. The 2007/2008 scheme will be launched at the Company's Court meeting scheduled for Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2007, with the presentation luncheon being held on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2008 at The Great Hall of Guildhall. The Court expressed their appreciation of the excellent work of the Awards Programme, Executive Director, Court Assistant Richard Chisnell.

HSE Cleaning Industry Liaison Forum

The outcomes of a trial questionnaire for evaluating dermatitis in the industry will be reported at the next meeting. A new publication relating to musculoskeletal Disorders had been published in addition to current 'Caring for Cleaners' publication. A 'Falls from Height' campaign in 2007 will be focused on low level falls. The HSE had expressed an interest in the Building Cleanability Guidelines, scheduled for publication later as a result of the BCA programme. The HSE had been asked to look at cleaning within London Underground System with a view to drawing the attention of 'Transport for London' to a variety of cleaning issues.

Master's Weekend Away 2007

The Senior Warden outlined a draft programme for this event, scheduled for the weekend of 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> June 2007 or the last weekend in June. Leaving London Victoria on the Friday at 9.00 am by coach for 4 star Reims Hotel arriving about 18.30 with ferry crossing and comfort stops. Saturday & Sunday visit four champagne houses (Lansons, Tattinger, Moet & Chandon, and, Mercier. A tour of Reims Cathedral on the Saturday as well as a 'black tie' dinner that evening. Returning by coach on the Monday arriving Victoria about 18.00 with ferry crossing and comfort stops. The cost is likely to be in the region of £260 per person with a £50 single supplement. There is a need for 30 minimum and 48 maximum to attend to make it viable. Those interested to please advise the Clerk soonest.

## NOVEMBER COURT REPORT

Livery Numbers as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2006.

Freemen	54
Liverymen	207
Hon Freemen	8
Hon Asst	1 (except those included in Livery numbers)
Apprentices	4
Total	274 (255 same time in 2005)

Up-date on future relationship with a Cadet Unit in London

The initial indications were that we should pursue a potential relationship with a Corps of Drums in South London. However, the Clerk decided to seek advice from the RAMC at Camberley as it was intended that the Cadet unit should be RAMC Badged. It turns out that the Corps of Drums is multi regiment/corps Badged and not just RAMC. Lt Col Ken Roberts' most recent advice is for us to seek a

relationship with another unit, which is RAMC Badged, and the Clerk will pursue this over the next few weeks.

#### Extending relationship with City & Guilds

The Court agreed to target another sector, such as General Learning sector, which is currently not supported by any other Company. This sector comprises training of fundamental skills; Key Skills, Adult Literacy and Numeracy, ESOL Skills for Life and Profile of Achievement. C&G have received 14 nominations for this sector. The Clerk will pursue this further with C&G.

#### Building Cleanability Awards

The Court noted that the 2008 Awards programme was likely to be the last organised through Richard Chisnell Marketing and that an alternative will need to be found. A report will be placed before the F&GP Committee in January for consideration.

#### Inter Livery Clay Shoot

Court Assistant Chris Parr reported that some £6,000 had been raised for charity at the May 2006 event. Numbers attending were slightly down on the previous year as the 'shoot' clashed with the Chelsea Flower. The event will be held on 23rd May 2007 in an endeavour to avoid clashing with other events. Invitations had already been sent out to Clerks of Livery Companies.

#### Golf Society

Court Assistant Peter Robb reported that the Company's Golf day at Ashridge had been successful and he had booked the same course for next year's event on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2007.

#### Names for consideration to take Office

The Master reminded the Court that in February 2005 they approved the electoral process for Officers, Court Assistants, Committee Membership and Other Appointments, and it was agreed that this should be an agenda item each November so that members of the Court may be reminded to put forward any nominations to the meeting of the Officers, that will make recommendations to the Election Court in February 2007. It was noted that the Clerk has already received some suggestions for membership of the Building Cleanability Awards Management Committee. To ensure confidentiality, it would perhaps be wise for any nominations to be made to the Clerk in confidence, before 30<sup>th</sup> November, as the Officers were meeting in December this year.

### TRUSTEES OF THE CHARITY FUND

The Court has been advised of the retirement of PME Harold Whiting in June, and of PME & HA Alan Vause in October. It is of special note to mention PME & HA Alan Vause record length of service of 30 years as a Trustee and Chairman, which is to be recognised more formally at the February 2007 Court and Lunch. Further more, the Court noted the appointment of PME Michael O'Connor and PM Paul Michael as Trustees from October 2006 for a period of five years. PME Michael O'Connor was elected Chairman of the Trustees.

### SOCIAL EVENTS FOR 2007

The Membership Services Committee is considering two possible events for next year:

A river trip from Richmond to Hampton Court with lunch on board, and a tour of the Palace – probably in July or August

Also, or alternatively, a cricket match and family day out at Great Sampford, near Saffron Walden, Essex (near the home of the current Junior Warden!)

To this end, the Clerk is enclosing with these Tidings a questionnaire, which you are asked to take a couple of minutes to complete, and return by not later than 30<sup>th</sup> November to give the committee some guidance as to the views of membership on such social events.