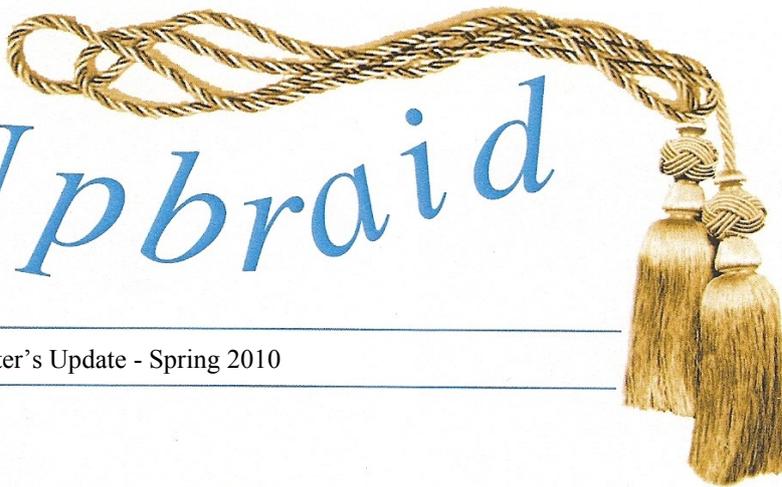




Upbraid

Master's Update - Spring 2010



Master's Message

The Master, Michael Gilham, and Immediate Past Master Richard Nevard went to unusual lengths to attract attention to the City Livery Club stand at the 2009 Guildhall Red Cross Market.

Part of the work of Master is to increase recognition of the Upholders Livery within the City and beyond. What follows is a selection of events from a typical fortnight in the Master's diary. This led the IPM to remark that within the space of a week he had found himself sitting on no less than three different **committees** with the Master.

Lectures are increasingly being used by Liveries to raise awareness of matters important to their trade. Thus the Master attended the Tinplate Workers Alias Wire Workers' second annual lecture

given by Will Whitehorn, President of Virgin Galactic. Will explained how they will be taking paying passengers into space within two years. The first part of the flight will lift them to 50,000 feet on the back of a jet, from which will be launched a rocket plane to carry the passengers into space for 15 minutes.

The Master then accompanied Honorary Archivist Judy Tayler-Smith to the **Livery History and Collections Forum** to discuss how to look after and use our collections of treasures and documents. That was followed by the Worshipful Company of Actuaries **Play and Supper** at Staple Inn, called 'Hanging Hooke—a genius betrayed' about the life of the founder of the Royal Society.

The Carpenters are, like us, members of the **Wood Group of Liveries** and the Master joined them for their **Court lunch**. We also have close links with the Distillers through Past Master Christopher Hayman and the Master



"Does this go well with my tie, dear?"

dined with them at Vintners' Hall that week. He attended the **City University degree ceremony**, during which the Lord Mayor was installed as Chancellor. The Master Woolman invited Michael Gilham to their **Alms Dinner**, which took place in Saddlers' Hall. He has also attended the **London Guides lecture**, which took place in the Dutch church in Crutched Friars. Finally the Master joined the Blacksmiths for lunch, through contacts made when he was last Master.

Michael Gilham says "On page 2 you can see that the Court has not been inactive either. The year has been spent designing the committee and review structures needed to support the Strategic Plan agreed in 2008. A focus of the Master-elect, Julian Squire, will be to implement these changes. The Court also accepted the retirement of Honorary Assistant Alan Aldous as Webmaster. It was due to his energy the Upholders were one of the first Liveries to have a website in 1998."

For your Diary

14th April
Installation Dinner
Drapers' Hall,
7.00 for 7.30pm
Liverymen, Freemen and Guests

2nd May
Upholders' Sperver at
Badminton Horse Trails
Liverymen, Freemen & Guests

17th June
Prize Giving
London Metropolitan
University
Liverymen & Freemen

15th July
Common Hall
Spaniards Inn, Hampstead
Liverymen

9th September
September Court Dinner
Mercers' Hall
Liverymen and guests

14th October
Ladies Night
Mansion House
Liverymen, Freemen and Guests

17th November
Flock & Feather
Skinner's Hall
Public, Liverymen, Freemen & Guests

13th January 2011
January Court Dinner
Vintners' Hall
Liverymen and guests

17th February
Church Service & Dinner
St Michaels & Armourers'
Hall
Liverymen, Freemen & Guests

United Guilds' Service
19th March 2010.

Election of Sheriffs
24th June 2010.

Election of Lord Mayor
29th September 2010.

Lord Mayor's Show
13th November 2010.

Upholders' News

January Court

Paul Barthaud

Clothed as Liveryman

Paul worked at Christie's, the auctioneers, for 30 years in a variety of roles - specialist in European and Oriental art, Managing Director of Christie's South Kensington and through to Group Deputy Chief Operating Officer, picking up an MBA and becoming a Fellow of the Institute of Directors along the way. He left Christie's in 2003 and undertook management roles with Spink and Son and Dreweatts before setting up his own consultancy in 2009. Paul has a particular interest in Education and providing young people with opportunities to develop their talents. He is a Trustee of a not for profit unit which works with young artists in Bristol.

Sadly Paul's wife died in 2006. He has a daughter of 16 and a son aged 11.



Giles Middleton Bray

Becoming a Freeman

On 12th January this year it was with a degree of trepidation that I entered into the ancient hall of Watermen and Lightermen to be made a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Upholders.

I immediately felt at ease having discovered several other gentlemen waiting there who were involved in a similar form of enrolment.

Having been awarded the Merit certificate by the Worshipful Company two years ago I now feel a real sense of honour being accepted as a freeman. It will serve as a constant reminder to me that I must always aim to deliver the very best service in my upholstery business which I run near Cirencester in the Cotswolds, and as a part time lecturer

and technician of the subject at Hereford College of Technology.

Both myself and my wife, Petra, spent a truly memorable evening with the liverymen of the company and on the snowbound journey home the next day we were still talking about the enjoyable time we shared and the good company we encountered during the occasion. I very much look forward to attending further events in the future.

Stephen Franklin

Clothed as Liveryman

Stephen Franklin is an Upholsterer with over 35 years of experience in undertaking all aspects of Upholstery and Specialist Fabric-walling. His work is found in some of the



most famous and prestigious buildings in London. He also runs the upholstery courses at the AMUSF's premises in Cardiff.

Montague (Nick) Meyer Admitted to the Court



Became a Liveryman of the Upholders in January 1999 and is a Past Master of the Carmen. He is known to all as Nick. He is Chairman of Consolidated Timber Holdings Ltd.

Past Master Michael Brecknell Hon. Treasurer Elect



PM Michael Brecknell has been elected by the Court to succeed Hon. Treasurer Joseph Byllam-Barnes when he steps down as Treasurer later this year after 25 years' service to the company in this role.

David Johnson Appointed Members Steward

This new role has been created to enhance contact with Liverymen and Freemen. The aim is to rekindle the enthusiasm of inactive members and return them to the fold. He will be a point of contact for members who want to pass their news to the Livery.



OBITUARY

Past Master James Cody

was remembered at the September Court Meeting. Past Master and Hon. Treasurer Joseph Byllam-Barnes gave an appreciation of James' life. James Cody died peacefully on Friday 7th August 2009 Cranmer Court nursing home with his family surrounding him. Amongst the many mourners 28 Upholders attended his funeral on Thursday 20th August at Beckenham Crematorium followed by a wake at The Chateau (Napoleon). James was clothed in the Livery in 1991 and became Clerk in 1998,

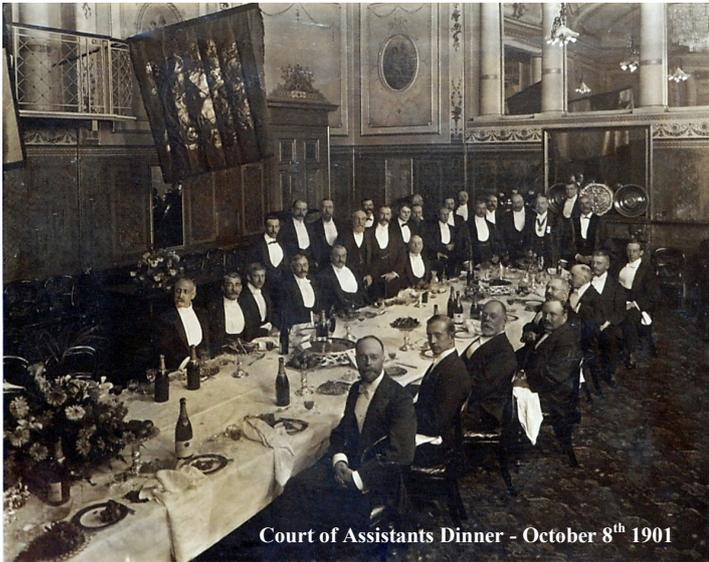
succeeding John Darby. In this role he was always helpful, kindly and efficient. Unusually he was appointed to the Court whilst still Clerk and became Master in 2005. He fought his illness during his year as Master with great dignity and was ably supported throughout by Jean his wife, who succeeded him as Clerk. Outside Livery James achieved much in many other spheres of his life too. He was a professional electrical engineer, forming his own company, passionately representing his trade and participating in Engineering Institutions. He also took a leading

role in his church, local politics and as a Mason. To his family he was a good father and grandfather. Many Upholders witnessed the wonderful partnership he had with Jean.

A prayer was offered for the peaceful repose of his soul. The Livery sent a donation to the Alzheimer's Society (Croydon Branch) in his memory.

Ronald Charles Salter passed away on 29th November 2009. Mr. Salter was clothed as an Upholder on 23rd September 1980 and is the Father in Law of Liveryman Percy Lerner.

Alan Alston, Past Master Furniture Maker, was remembered at the September Court meeting, as being behind the rapprochement of our two liversies, and he had a keen interest in both our trades.



Court of Assistants Dinner - October 8th 1901

As revealed at the Upholders' September Court Dinner, this photograph was returned to the Company's possession via Adam Wallis (son of William 'Ray' Wallis), who was Master in 1988 and Clerk 1978-1987. The Master standing at the head of the table (with badge) is Fredrick Smith. The Senior Warden in the photograph is Aubrey Garstin and the Junior Warden, William Hunter.

The Junior Warden, William Hunter, is of particular note as he was the grandson of one of our most distinguished members, Alderman William Hunter, Master in 1845 and Lord Mayor of London 1851-52. His father, known as William Hunter (the younger) was also Master of the Company in 1858.

The Albion Tavern was one of the largest establishments of its kind in London. The first premises (circa 1790) were on the west side of Aldersgate Street at 153 (close to the current Barbican Station). Later the Tavern moved to 172/173 Aldersgate Street, as seen in the photograph, and it is here that our Court Dinner took place. The majority of the banquets of the Corporation of London, the Sheriffs' inauguration dinners, and those of Livery Companies and committees, took place in its opulent surroundings. The building was finally demolished in the early part of the twentieth century, possibly in 1907.

A typical dinner at the Tavern would consist of Thick Spring Soup; Dorees a l'Italienne; Salmon; Whitebait; Escallopes de Ris de Veau aux Petit Pois; Poulet a l'Eclarte; Chines of Mutton; Ham and Salad; Ducklings; Goslings; Asparagus; Fruit Jellies; Pastry; Ratafia Creams; Compotes of Oranges and Ice Pudding. These were all washed down by fine wines, Champagne and Port. If you look at the photograph, you can see that each Court member has their own bottle of Champagne - how times have changed!

Honorary Archivist Judy Tayler-Smith



Guildhall School of Music & Drama Scholarship

Ashley Riches has been given the Upholders Scholarship at GSMD. He writes: "My time at Guildhall follows 3 years studying English at the University of Cambridge, where I sang in the choir at King's College. With the choir I have performed throughout the world and performed solos on international radio and television broadcast, including the famous services around Christmas. My recent news is that I have been accepted on to the Opera

course at the Guildhall for the coming two years (following his current 1 year vocal studies course) and that I won the inaugural Guildhall Aria Prize in November." Ashley will be performing in *The Lads in their Hundreds*, a series of staged songs from May 19th to 22nd directed by the accompanist Iain Burnside, in London. Outside London he is singing the Faure Requiem for Winchester City Festival Chorus on January 30th, and the Matthew Passion for Collegium Laureatum in Cambridge on March 28th, and will appear at Ludlow Festival (again in *Lads*) on June 5th.

Upholding the Craft of the Upholsterer

The Longest Needle in the World?

Is this the longest needle in the world? Measuring over 5ft the

piece of metal rod from a roller blind and was adapted to give it a point and an eye. It means that buttons with heavy twine can be installed on each end of the cushion and the twine is kept nice and straight.

Article courtesy of Upholsterer & Soft Furnisher.



Liveryman Roy Theobald

A number of Upholders enjoyed the excellent food and party atmosphere at the 'Winter Wonderland' themed Christmas dinner of the Kent Branch of the AMU. Pictured are Past Masters Alan Kinsey and Richard Nevard, along with Alan's guest Jane Loveridge, who is holding the magical menu card hand made by Brenda Finch of the AMU.

giant specimen was shown to 30 Liverymen of the Upholders Company, along with guests, as part of a trip to Windsor Castle workshops, where all Royal furniture repairs are undertaken. The needle was made by one of the upholsterers for use on bolster cushions from a



Traditional upholstery on a hearse on show at the **Worshipful Company of Saddlers' Inter-Livery Carriage Driving Day** at Shelton Farm, near Pangbourne, Berkshire, on 25 July 2009. The Upholders formed a combined team with the Mercers.



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Any articles for the next edition of Upbraid should be posted or sent to Richard_Nevard@btinternet.com by 1st June 2010



Upholding Our Livery

'Master's Surprise' Wine and Tapas Evening held at Bacchanalia



A very convivial evening was arranged on 17th November by the Master to educate our palates on the food and wines of Spain. In all 36 guests sampled 6 wines, ranging from Marques de Monistrol Rose Cava 2003 through zesty, flinty whites to heavier reds. Clearly these were well appreciated, along with the fantastic olive oil, judging by the lack of use of the spittoons and number of boxes purchased at the end of the evening.

The fascinating gourmet evening was presented by Richard Macadam and Dave Green of Bacchanalia, and our thanks go to the Master on a most successful occasion.

The unusual piece of Upholstery on the right was spotted by the editor when visiting Hampton Court Palace to see the Tapestry Re-colouring project sponsored by the Upholders. No prizes for guessing but do you know what is its correct name?



Upholders Support Thames Tapestry

Our speaker at the Upholders' Church Service Dinner on 11th February will be Lizzie Owen, Chief Executive of the Millennium Tapestry Company.

Thames Heritage Trust working with the Millennium Tapestry Company is contacting a total of 240 schools from the source of the river in Gloucestershire down to the estuary with the aim of creating a unique record of Thames history, architecture, industry, nature, sport and recreation. The plan is for it to be completed by 2012 as part of the cultural component of the London



Olympics.

Each school is being asked to complete a one square metre panel depicting aspects of the Thames in their area. The pupils will be supplied with carpet canvas and all the yarns, materials and implements needed to complete their panel, and trainer sessions will be held to provide the practical know-how needed for the project. Master Michael Gilham has arranged funds from the Master's list to support an individual school's contribution to this project.

Naval Links By Richard Nevard IPM

On 7th September the Master and IPM visited HMS Triumph in Devonport dockyard in the company of Lord and Lady Hamilton of Epsom and the Mayor of Newton Abbot. Lady Hamilton is HMS Triumph's sponsor having launched her in 1991. We met the commanding officer, Cmdr Rob Dunn, and some of the crew in their on-shore mess along with representatives of Babcock Engineering who are carrying out the refit.



HMS Triumph Basin Dive 24th September © Royal Navy

Our next port of call was in the submarine training school. Here the XO gave a very clear and interesting explanation of the roles of a submarine today.

We then had need of sea sickness pills as we rode the simulator for the ship command position. Once we were 'aboard' the crew demonstrated an emergency dive and we all gripped the hand holds above us as the boat tipped steeply down and we started to fall forward. Once at periscope depth the Master took over the pilot's position and found it surprisingly difficult to keep the boat on a straight and level course at high speed. When it was all over the door swung open and we remembered that we had travelled no more than a metre or so up and down, ending exactly where we had started.

As we walked into the next cabin we were aware that the officer of the watch was working hard keeping track of two enemy ships close by. On the display we could see the other vessels as he demonstrated amazing mental agility calculating how long he could afford to wait before putting the periscope

up again. We took lunch in Drake's mess with models of the ships of all three navies that took part in the Armada hanging over our heads. After lunch we descended into HMS Triumph down a vertical ladder. We worked our way to the forward escape area where there was little room to stand. Then we made our way aft seeing much of the boat including the crew quarters, the galley and the walk in freezer for storing ice cream and other essentials which enable the boat to be fully self-sufficient when on patrol. The largest space on board is reserved for her torpedoes and magazine. Loading them is a difficult procedure with the crew having to fit rails down through the centre of the boat for them to be slid into the magazine. At the end of our tour we were permitted to walk two at a time over the reactor, through an air lock with heavy interlocking doors into the reactor control room. In the evening after the visit we enjoyed an excellent, memorable dinner prepared and served by the ship's crew. The re-dedication ceremony for HMS Triumph will be in Devonport on Easter Saturday 3rd April.



T.S. Upholder (Chelmsford Sea Cadets) Petty Officer (SCC) Sebastian A Rowland has been appointed officer in charge of the unit following the retirement of Lt Cdr (SCC) David Lincoln due to ill health in November. The Cadets annual awards ceremony will be on Thursday 18th March.