

A WELL ENGINEERED COMPANY

The story of The Worshipful Company of Engineers
1983 – 2008



by

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Master 2006 – 2007
Clerk 1986 - 2002

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Foreword by the Master.



This book could not have been produced in this form without Bryan Gibson's involvement because he alone has the detailed knowledge of the Engineer's Company over such a long period. Bryan's loyal and dedicated service to the Company, and to a long succession of Masters, as Clerk for over 16 years and then as Warden and Master has played a major part in the success of the Company through its first 25 years and the following chapters make that clear.

I am delighted to have this opportunity to pay tribute to all that Bryan Gibson has done and to thank him on behalf of the Company.

Tony Roche FREng
Master 2008-9

A WELL ENGINEERED COMPANY

The story of The Worshipful Company of Engineers 1983 – 2008

Preface

The Worshipful Company of Engineers started with two “firsts”. Firstly, it was the fastest formed Livery Company of the 19th and 20th centuries going from a Company without Livery – it was never a Guild – to grant of Livery by the Court of Aldermen in less than 10 weeks. Secondly, when Letters Patent were presented by The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor on 1st November 1983 to the Founder Master, Alderman Sir Peter Gadsden, it was the first time in the recorded history of the City that the Founder Master of a Livery Company was a serving Alderman and also the supporting Alderman for the grant of livery.

Shortly afterwards came another first when the Badge of The Lord Mayor was incorporated into the Company’s Armorial Bearings. When, on 11th February 2004, HM The Queen approved the grant of a Royal Charter of Incorporation, it was the first new Royal Charter granted to a Livery Company in 46 years and only the third Charter to a modern company. With the grant of a Royal Charter just over twenty years from its formation, the Engineers’ Company had achieved a great deal and could be said to have come of age. With the presentation of the Royal Charter by HRH The Duke of Kent on 27th April 2004, the legal status of the company changed and from the 28th April 2004, the Engineers Company has operated under the terms of its Charter. This book covers the period the Company operated under Letters Patent presented by The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor from 1st November 1983 to 27th April 2004 and the first 4 years since the granting of the Royal Charter. There is also an introduction covering the years prior to the grant of livery.



Throughout the whole of this period, I was involved with the Company in various capacities as Secretary of one of the founding Chartered Engineering Institutions, a Liveryman, Clerk for over 16 years and occupying the various Wardens’ chairs before becoming Master in 2006. The Founder Master always said that “Livery must be fun” and we have all enjoyed ourselves whilst never losing sight of our principal objective to encourage and promote the art, science and technology of engineering. This therefore is the story of a young modern Livery Company finding its way and establishing itself within the City of London related by someone who started with little knowledge of either the City or the Livery movement but who came to appreciate the important contribution made by both to the life of the Nation.

I am most grateful to all the Past Masters for their assistance in writing this book and for their personal contributions and also to the Assistant Clerk & Beadle Stephen Grundy and the present Clerk Air Vice-Marshal Graham Skinner. I dedicate the book to all the Liverymen of the Company without whom there would not have been a story to tell and whose friendship and cooperation I have always appreciated.

Bryan Gibson
October 2008

Introduction

I first saw the inside of Guildhall in 1979 when attending the Annual Dinner of the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants for whom I had started working after leaving the Royal Navy in 1978. Under the gaze of Gog and Magog, you could not help feeling a sense of history with the memorials to Pitt, Nelson, Wellington and Churchill but I do not recall being aware of the Livery Company shields high up on the walls. Nor had I any sense that within a few years, Guildhall and the City would become an important part of my life. Then in January 1980 my son James was invited by his friend Edward, the son of Common Councilman Ian McNeil, to accompany him to the Annual Lord Mayor's Fancy Dress Party in Mansion House. A few weeks after the party, James came home with a photograph of Edward and himself sitting in the Lord Mayor's Ceremonial Chair. Across the photograph had been written "With all good wishes, Peter Gadsden". Over the years, that distinctive black writing and signature became increasingly familiar and it now seems fate that my first, albeit indirect, contact with a Lord Mayor should have been with our Founder Master.

In November 1999, the Founder Assistant Clerk Raymond Cousins gave a lecture in which he outlined the history of the founding of the Company and its early years and this was published in 2000. As I was not involved in any of the events prior to the Grant of Livery much of this introduction is based on Raymond's lecture. In the 1970's the Lord Mayor and the Court of Aldermen wished to promote closer links between the modern leading professions and the City of London by encouraging them to seek recognition as City Livery Companies. Up to that time there had only been seven new Livery companies in the twentieth century. Some professions responded and formed companies and eight were granted Livery Status between 1977 and 1980. In 1974, Sir Peter Gadsden first approached the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy but whilst receiving support there were not sufficient members from one Institution interested enough to create a company. Similarly other Institutions made enquiries amongst their members but by themselves they did not have sufficient numbers either. The City also indicated that it would prefer to have an Engineering Livery Company based on a wide range of engineering disciplines.

In 1978 Sir Peter had discussions with the Fellowship of Engineering (later the Royal Academy of Engineering) which itself had been formed in 1976 but, again, whilst being supportive there was not quite enough enthusiasm to make it work at that time. Sir Peter was elected Lord Mayor in 1979 and it wasn't until January 1982 that Bunny Morgan, 'Mr Fixit' of the City, arranged a meeting between Sir Peter and Trevor Crocker. Trevor had been making enquiries amongst Engineer members of other Livery Companies and they were quickly joined by Robert McWilliam, Gerry Mortimer, Robert Dunn and Ted West. Michael Leonard who was Secretary of the Fellowship also began to follow up the earlier enquires. The Institution of Metallurgists, the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy and the Institution of Mining Engineers had formed a small group (President, Past President and President-elect from each Institution) to consider a possible merger and Sir Peter persuaded this group to be active in pursuing the formation of a Livery Company. Indeed when I became Secretary of the Institution of Metallurgists in September 1982, one of my early tasks was to identify Fellows who might be interested in joining a new Company so that by the end of that year there was beginning to be sufficient support to make the formation of a Company a real possibility. Following a meeting at the City of London Club on 9th December 1982, there was an approach to the Fellowship to seek its support and Sir Peter was subsequently invited to address the Annual General Meeting in March 1983. The Fellowship was very supportive and at a Council Meeting on 3rd May 1983 passed a resolution "supporting the formation of an unincorporated association to be called the Company of Engineers which will then petition the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen of the City of London for recognition as a Livery Company of the City of London". Being true engineers they also stressed that the Company was not to be a financial liability on the Fellowship. With this valuable moral support also came the personal and active support of Sir Denis Rooke who was then the Senior Vice President of the Fellowship.

The principles for the formation of a Company and the principal players were now in existence and the next stage was to ensure that the Company would receive support from sufficient individual engineers in order to promote itself as a Livery Company.

In 1983 as well as being a partner in a Civil and Structural Engineering consultancy practice, Raymond Cousins was the Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Woolmen, a Livery Company which had then just celebrated its 800th anniversary. His first contact with the group of engineers was in May 1983 when Peter invited him to become Assistant Clerk to the proposed Company. He was looking for an engineer who was familiar with the City traditions and who would support Michael Leonard who was to be the Clerk as he was more familiar with the organisation of the various Engineering Institutions and the Fellowship rather than the City.

The change from being a small group of engineers with a splendid idea into a Company with a future happened on 29th June 1983. On that day six of the Founding Members met with Bunny Morgan and Stanley Heather, who had just retired as the City Solicitor and who was giving us much legal advice. This was the first formal meeting of the Company and the first officers of the Company were agreed including an Hon. Chaplain, The Reverend Hugh Rom, who had worked in engineering and was Priest-in-Charge of St. Katherine Cree in Leadenhall Street. Bunny Morgan and Stanley Heather, who of course were not engineers, were invited to join the Court as Honorary Assistants in recognition of the help they had given and would, in the future, give to the Company.

As the Institution of Metallurgists wished to take an active role in promoting the Company, The President and I invited Sir Peter to be the Principal Guest at a Council Dinner held on the 3rd July 1983 in Pewterers' Hall. Peter outlined the aims and objectives of a Livery Company of Engineers and was able to indicate that the formal Petition to the Court of Aldermen was about to be submitted. As Sir Peter spoke I can clearly recall thinking that this was an organisation of which I wished to be a part. About the same time the Presidents of all 16 Chartered Engineering Institutions or their representatives attended a reception where they were told about the Company and invited to give their support and perhaps to join themselves.

Sir Peter was keen that the Company should receive its Grant of Livery at the earliest opportunity as there were other companies that were planning their petitions and there was a danger that if we did not move quickly there could be a delay of several years whilst the Court of Aldermen considered how the new companies were performing. Indeed in 1983 as the 94th Livery Company we felt very junior although the Fuellers' (95) and Lightmongers' (96) were granted Livery status less than a year later. However between then and 2005, another 11 Livery Companies have been formed.

Sir Peter was also very keen that Sir Anthony Jolliffe, the then Lord Mayor and who had been his Aldermanic Sheriff when Peter had been Lord Mayor should present the Grant. Sir Peter had therefore arranged to see Sir Anthony and various possibilities were considered including even that of Sir Peter presenting the Grant himself but this did not quite seem appropriate. However, there was just one possible date for the presentation before the end of Sir Anthony's mayoralty and, as he considered that an Engineering Livery Company would be very good for the City, the Lord Mayor gave his apologies to a Ward Club and immediately entered the presentation of the Grant into his diary. Armed with this knowledge Sir Peter then went to see the City Chamberlain requesting that a Grant of Livery should be made within this mayoralty to which the Chamberlain answered "quite impossible, the Lord Mayor has not got a free date in his diary before he stands down from office and in any case we could not complete the formalities in that time". "Well", says Sir Peter, "I understand that the Lord Mayor does particularly wish to present this Grant and I wonder if you would mind checking his diary for November 1st". The City Chamberlain immediately rang the diary secretary at Mansion House and was most surprised to be told that the Lord Mayor was due to present a Grant of Livery to the Engineers' Company on that day. "My goodness", he said, "I suppose we will have to get on with it then!" Who you know gets things done!

Now, of course, the new Company had to make sure it was ready to receive the grant on 1st November and at the meeting on 29th June the programme had been set for the various steps which had to be taken. The first action was to petition the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen with the support of at least 40 Engineers and this, with 41 names, was submitted on 4th July just 5 days after the formal formation of the Company. The reception of Presidents and the earlier discussions, particularly amongst the mining and metals engineers, gave the nucleus for these members including Sir William Barlow and Alderman Frank McWilliams who were both later to become Master. Our petition was heard by the Court of Aldermen on 12th July and referred to the General Purposes Committee. This Committee reported favourably and the petition was approved by the Court of Aldermen at their meeting on 13th September 1983. They said that the Engineers were a special case (which, of course, we were) and the speed of agreeing the Grant should not be considered a precedent. They also expected the Company to be active in its charitable objectives, which we had barely had time to consider by then.

The meeting on 29th June also set the Livery Fine and Quarterage and the proportion of the different types of Engineers which should be targeted for the Membership of the Company. The Ordinances required that a balance should be preserved between each of the four main disciplines, and this is still a requirement today. The Court would have three Wardens and the maximum number of Assistants was also agreed and again this has not changed although the actual numbers of Court Assistants steadily increased to the maximum. In 1999, the status of Assistants Emeritus was introduced in order to recognise significant service by Past Masters or long serving Assistants but otherwise the structure of the Court remains as agreed in those early meetings. The final decision taken at that time was to use 19 Old Broad Street as our Hall. The City of London Club was very pleased to allow us to do this, and we continued to use the Club until early in 2003 when we moved to Wax Chandlers' Hall.

Between the beginning of July and the 1st November 1983, the embryo Court met fortnightly to agree the Ordinances of the Company and to agree the actual wording of the Grant of Livery which would be enrolled among the records of the Court of Aldermen and embodied in Letters Patent under the Mayoralty seal. The first Court Meeting of the Livery Company was on 28th September 1983 as the first meeting after the approval of the Grant of Livery by the Court of Alderman earlier in the month. This was also the first meeting at which the Freeman made their declarations. During this period, the badges and gowns for the Master, Wardens, Clerk, Assistant Clerk & Beadle were designed based on the Company colours of gold and blue. It has been said that the gowns look as though they were designed by committee but at least they are distinctive. In later years I followed the original style when we added gowns for Past Masters, Liverymen and the Chaplain. In addition there were detailed arrangements for administration and the preparation of oaths.

Raymond Cousins has written *"This was a very interesting time when we were all saying – well in my Company we do it this way so that must be best – and this, of course, was genuinely believed. But to hear how other companies did things and to bring out the best bits of all of them was an exciting experience. It is good looking back now to see how effective the results have been and how well they have stood the test of time"*.



By 1st November all the initiatives were in place and the 94th Livery Company of the City of London was about to become a reality and so our story begins with the presentation of Letters Patent by the Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor to the Founder Master.

Chapter 1 1983 - 85

Founder Master Alderman Sir Peter Gadsden GBE AC FREng
Wardens: Sir Denis Rooke CBE FRS FREng, Mr. Robert McWilliam & Mr. Trevor Crocker.



The Founder Master writes: Since the Livery was granted in 1983, the Worshipful Company of Engineers has flourished and fulfilled all expectations as a Livery Company of the City of London. It has fostered engineering and supported the Ironbridge Gorge Museum. At all times it has set high standards. The significant events during my extended year as Founder Master were:

November 1983 – Presentation of Letters Patent to the Company by the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House

September 1984 – Visit to the Ironbridge Gorge Museum & Presentation of the ceremonial Wilkinson Sword at the Fusiliers' Mess, Tower of London.

October 1984 – Unveiling of the Company's Shield in Guildhall.

February 1985 – Election Court Dinner attended by HRH, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

April 1985 – Presentation of the Accord between Corps of Royal Engineers and the Company at the Ministry of Defence.



At a special meeting of the Court of Aldermen held in the Mansion House on 1st November 1983, The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor presented the illuminated Grant of Livery to the Founder Master formally creating The Worshipful Company as the 94th Livery Company. The fastest formed Livery Company in history also had the unique distinction of having the sponsoring Alderman as the Founder Master.

The City were pleased to encourage the Engineering Profession in its vital services to the whole community whilst the Company were pleased to support the City's ancient customs and traditions and to have a presence in the financial centre. After the presentation the Company entertained the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen to luncheon. Also invited were the High Officers of the Corporation including the Town Clerk, Chamberlain, and others but events such as this did not normally include the City Engineer. Needless to say the Company was pleased to rectify this and welcomed the then City Engineer, Len Groome, who, subsequently, became a Liveryman and Court Assistant.

In recognition of the developing relationship with the Corps of Royal Engineers several senior officers attended the luncheon. The Royal Engineers provided silver to decorate the table and a Guard of Honour. This established the high quality for the Engineers' functions which has become a tradition ever since. The

Lord Mayor confessed in his speech after luncheon that he had wanted to be an Engineer until the age of 12 when his father told him that he was going to be an Accountant.

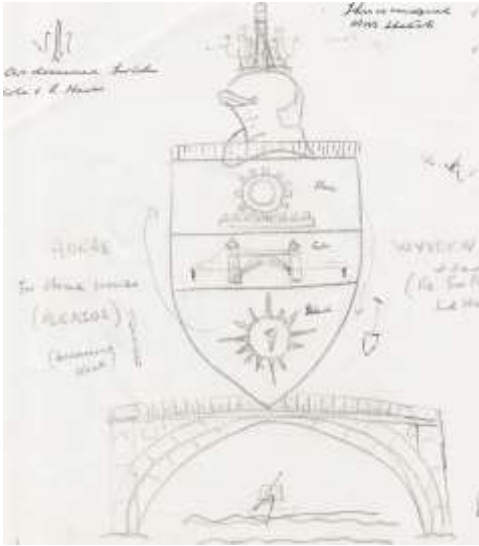
Having achieved the aim of Livery status, the Court now had to establish the customs and traditions of the Company following the spirit and tradition of the City. The first Freemen clothed with the Livery were members of the Court on 8th March 1984. At that time the Court consisted of:

Master	Alderman Sir Peter Gadsden GBE FREng
Senior Warden	Sir Denis Rooke CBE FRS FREng
Middle Warden	Mr Robert McWilliam
Junior Warden	Mr. T J C Crocker
Assistants:	Sir William Barlow FREng
	Sir Terence Beckett CBE FREng
	The Viscount Caldecote DSC FREng
	Mr. R H Campbell FREng
	Mr. R B Dunn FREng
	Rear Admiral P G Hammersley CB OBE
	Mr. G A Lee FREng
	Alderman F McWilliams
	Mr. G J Mortimer CBE FREng
	Dr. W Risk CBE FREng
	Dr. E G West OBE
Clerk	Mr. M W Leonard CVO FREng
Assistant Clerk	Mr. R J R Cousins
Chaplain	The Reverend H Rom

By June 1984, there were a significant number of Freemen waiting to be clothed in the Livery so special meetings of the Court were held at the City of London Club. The maximum number clothed at a single meeting was 31 although it was more usually in the 20's. Indeed at my own clothing on 26th July 1984, I was one of 24 Freemen attending that evening. At that time, a spare Warden's gown was used for the clothing so, having been clothed and having been welcomed into the Company, you left the Court Room to be immediately stripped. Some years later we designed and procured six Liverymen's gowns, so that the current ceremony is not only more dignified but new Liverymen are able to wear their gown until they process into dinner as guests of the Court. As Sir William Barlow has commented "*We were recruiting liverymen in large numbers and swearing them in. Here, Ray Cousins, our volunteer Assistant Clerk, who was Clerk to the Woolmens' Company and subsequently served as Master of the Woolmen and Engineers, was invaluable. He developed a wonderful style and efficiency in what looked a simple task but wasn't and he did it for hundreds with great charm.*"

On 18th April 1984 at an informal Court meeting at the offices of British Gas, the Middle Warden, Robert McWilliam was taken ill very suddenly and died in hospital shortly afterwards. He was a distinguished mining engineer who contributed greatly to the formation of the Company and under normal circumstances would have been the Company's 3rd Master. Indeed this was the first of a number of events which meant that it wasn't until the election of the 7th Master in April 1990 that the preferred progression through the Wardens to Master was achieved.

In July 1983, Sir Colin Cole, then Garter King of Arms attended one of our meetings when it was agreed that we would develop a full Coat of Arms with suitable supporters. The colours for the Arms and for the Company itself were agreed as blue and gold with blue to represent water and gold for association with the City. The Coat of Arms was developed over the next few weeks going through various ideas. The shield contains the 16 pointed sun representing energy and the 16 Chartered Engineering Institutions which existed at that time. Tower Bridge represents the close ties between Engineering and the City of London and the rack and pinion the mechanical disciplines of engineering. The development picture' shows how non-engineers



can get it wrong. The bridge would difficult to close and the rack would slip a bit! The Winged Pegasus, representing horsepower and flight, is wearing the Company badge and holding a measuring stick which all engineers use. The Wyvern is wearing the Lord Mayor's badge in honour of the Founder Master being a Past Lord Mayor and holding a shovel to represent the Civil Engineering and Mining disciplines.

The crest is Smeaton's lighthouse to show engineers bring light and guidance and place safety above all. All this is supported on the iron bridge which was the first bridge in the world constructed of iron and is the symbol of the start of the industrial revolution based on engineering. The water flows under the bridge to indicate yet another division of engineering. Having established the Coat of Arms a motto was required and the help of the Archivist of the Clothworkers' Company, David Wickham

was enlisted. Unusually the bible was not a fruitful source talking only about engines of war and engineers being cunning men, and Shakespeare was no better. Finally, he came up with "Certare Ingenio" from Lucretius' De Rerum Natura. Scholarly translations differ but Certare means "to contend" or "to strive", whilst Ingenio means one's wits or intelligence. The Company have taken the meaning to be: "To use ones skill to the best of one's natural abilities" which, of course sums up what all engineers try to do. The Letters Patent granting Armorial Bearings, Supporters and Badge to The Worshipful Company of Engineers was sealed by the Kings of Arms on 28th September 1984 and presented to the Founder Master by Sir Colin Cole KCVO TD, Garter Principal King of Arms at the first Company Banquet held in the Mansion House on 5th October 1984 in the presence of the Lord Mayor, Dame Mary Donaldson GBE.

During the first year, some time was spent considering the design of a Company Mace. On this occasion, design by Committee didn't work and the problem was eventually solved when Liveryman, Sir Ronald Ellis, a Director of Wilkinson Sword, came up with the idea of a ceremonial sword. This was generously presented by Mr. Lewinton, the Chairman of Wilkinson Sword at a Dinner in the Tower of London on 25th September 1984. The Company could choose what went on the scabbard and Past Master Sir William Barlow says "I had never been happy with our coat of arms with a shovel, a simple rack and pinion because I believed that a company started in 1983 should represent to history what was happening then. Thus we put modern engineering achievements on the scabbard of the sword like Concorde, an oil rig, satellite and a semiconductor." The sword, which has always been much admired, was first carried in public in the Mansion House on 5th October 1984 and is now borne with pride by the Beadle before the Master at all our functions and is influential in giving gravitas to our functions.



The Company Ordinances gives the Court power to elect as Honorary Liverymen or Honorary Freemen suitable persons who have either made notable contributions to the engineering profession or who would by their election add distinction to the Company. Before the formal presentation of Letters Patent on 1st November 1983, the Founder Master invited HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, Royal Fellow of the Fellowship



of Engineering, to accept election as “First Honorary Liveryman” to which His Royal Highness was pleased to agree. Prince Philip made his first visit to the Company on 21st February 1985 when he was entertained to dinner by the Court. The Court also appointed Mr. Bunny Morgan and Mr. Stanley Heather as Honorary Liverymen and as Honorary Assistants they gave the Court good advice over many years.

Links with the Corps of Royal Engineers were an obvious choice and in April 1984 an Accord between the Company and the Corps was signed at a ceremony in the

Henry VIII Room at the Ministry of Defence. Under the Accord the Master becomes an Honorary Member of the Royal Engineers Association during his year of office and the Chief Royal Engineer becomes an Honorary Liverymen whilst holding the appointment.



The Accord was further enhanced with an exchange of silver in January 1987 of which more later. Over the years this has developed into a very close association which has certainly brought great pleasure to the Company.

The importance of charitable activities had been stressed by the Court of Alderman at the time of the Grant of Livery so it was important to establish a Charitable Trust Fund as soon as possible. The Trust Deed was signed by the Master, Wardens and Clerk on 4th July 1984 on behalf of the Court and subsequently registered with the Charity Commission. Once the Company had had three Past Masters, the Court agreed that the four Trustees should thereafter be the Master and the three Past Masters who had most recently held office and this has continued. The Trust has been very generously supported by many engineering companies and individuals and quickly reached the requirement that had been set by the Court of Aldermen that future Livery Companies should have a minimum fund of £100,000.

During the Founder Master’s year which actually spanned 18 months, there were a number of significant events. The first formal Livery Dinner was held in April 1984 at The City of London Club with The Chief Royal Engineer, General Sir Hugh Beech as the guest of honour. Although an applicant, but not yet a Freeman, I attended this dinner as guest of Court Assistant Dr. Ted West and sat next to another Court Assistant Alderman Frank McWilliams. Neither Frank nor I could have known at that first meeting that 6 years later we would be working today closely as Master and Clerk. On 5th October 1984 came the first Annual banquet in the Mansion House with the principal guests being The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs, Garter King of Arms and Sir Alan Cottrell the Master of Jesus College Cambridge.

September 1984 saw the first out-of-town visit when Sir Peter presented a tile depicting the Company Arms to the Ironbridge Gorge Trust with the ceremony taking place on the Ironbridge itself. We were all gathered on the bridge as the Master, Wardens and Clerk processed from the Toll House to the centre of the bridge and I particularly remember Sir Peter commenting on the fact that Ironbridge was already well over 200 years old whereas he had just been appointed as Chairman of the Britain-Australia Bicentennial Trust which was planning the events to mark the 200th anniversary of the first European settlement of Australia which



was still 4 years away. This certainly put the Birthplace of the Industrial Revolution into historical context. This event started an ongoing and continuing relationship between the Company and Ironbridge whereas each Master has been an ex-officio Trustee of the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Development Trust and visits to the Museum have become a regular part of the Company programme. At the buffet lunch which followed the ceremony on the bridge, Lady Labouche, a direct descendant of Abram Darby III, presented a silver mug which had once belonged to Abram Darby III and engraved with his initials. This

was always described as a christening mug but when Andrew Jackson was preparing his Warden's Lecture in November 1998, we discovered that the hall mark on the mug was 21 years later than Darby's birth so we now assume it was a 21st birthday present. With our association with Ironbridge, this is an important item in our collection.

At the Luncheon following the presentation of Letters Patent in November 1983, the table silver had been loaned by the Corps of Royal Engineers. However there was a need for the Company to have its own artefacts and during the Founder Master's year, two Loving Cups had been produced to our own design. The Founder Master had introduced the Company to Mr. Alan Henn of TA Henn & Son. Ltd, a firm of silversmiths based in Wolverhampton, and Alan and his son John have looked after our treasures ever since.



The Loving Cups, although with the traditional three handles, were otherwise of a modern shape. Alan Henn incorporated the shape of the Ironbridge in the design of the handles and the lid handle is also shaped as the Ironbridge with our sixteen pointed sun also on the lid. Both the cups were engraved with the Company Arms with one cup being purchased by the Company and the other from donations from members of the Founder Court whose names are engraved on the cup. The cups were received at the end of October 1984 and at the same meeting the Court finally approved the design of the Beadles staff which wasn't however received

until February 1985. This started another tradition, that as new Assistants were appointed, they made donations of £55.00 each towards a new Cup of the same design and once 14 donations were received another cup was produced and their names engraved on it. This continued until we had sufficient loving cups for even the largest function.



The collection of treasures started when at the Court Meeting on 16th January 1984, the Founder Master announced that Mr. J H Brock had presented a silver salver to the Company. Then at the Court meeting held on 16th May 1984, the Founder Master presented to the Company one of his mayoralty plates. This was followed on 10th July 1984 with the presentation of a Loving Cup by British Gas. Later a small salver, cigarette box and a tie pin were presented by June McWilliam in memory of her late husband.



The list of treasures was really beginning to grow and increased further when in January 1985, Court Assistant Mr. R H Campbell presented a pair of College of Arms Tercentenary Commemorative Goblets and Liveryman, Mr. Bruce Ball, donated the silver tray presented to his father when he was President of the IMechE in 1939.

I particularly remember the ceremony in Guildhall on 2nd October 1984, when, jointly with the Arbitrators Company who was granted their Livery shortly before us, we witnessed the unveiling of our shields in Guildhall. Companies who have odd numbers in the order of precedent are on the north side and even numbered companies on the south side so the shields of the Arbitrators and Engineers look across at each other. The blue and gold of our shield is rather dull so it doesn't stand out as well as some but it is something I

try to point out to new Liverymen when they attend Common Hall for the first time.

As Liverymen we were also now able to attend the Election of Sheriffs and the Election of Lord Mayor and the numbers of engineers who regularly attend these events is a clear sign of how we have embraced the City and its traditions. The end of 1984 saw the holding of the first Company Carol Service at St. Katherine Cree Church in Leadenhall Street on 13th December.

The Company was particularly fortunate in having a former Lord Mayor as its Founder Master. Although the majority of the members of the founding Court were Liverymen of other Companies, most of the new Liverymen had had no previous connection with the Livery and the speed with which we were formed meant that we hadn't had time to assimilate the traditions of the City. Sir Peter ensured we started off on the correct course however being engineers we also wanted to do things in our own way. To begin creating our own traditions was to fall to succeeding Masters.

The Minutes of the 1985 Installation Court record Sir Peter as saying *"I hope that the high standards which have been established will be maintained and clearly the Company is firmly established as a City Livery Company"*.

Pictures on Page 11:

Unveiling of a tile (produced at the Jackfield Tile Works) showing the Company Arms on the Ironbridge by the Founder Master in September 1984

Silver Salver donated by Bruce Ball; Silver Salver donated by Mr. J H Brock OBE, Cigarette Box presented by Mrs. June McWilliam

Picture on Page 12:

Pair of Silver/Silver Gilt Wine Goblets (Numbered 287/500 and 289/500) produced to commemorate the quincentary of the The College of Arms and presented by Assistant, Mr. R H Campbell OBE in 1984

Chapter 2 1985 – 86

Master Sir Denis Rooke OM CBE FRS FREng

Wardens: Mr. Trevor Crocker, Sir William Barlow FREng & Mr. Robert Dunn FREng



Sir Denis was elected Master at the Court meeting held on 27th February 1985 and he was installed in office on 18th April 1985. As the first Middle Warden had died during 1984, the Junior Warden Trevor Crocker became the new Senior Warden and Sir William Barlow agreed to be and was elected the new Middle Warden. Both Robert Dunn and Rear Admiral Peter Hammersley were nominated as Junior Warden with Robert Dunn being subsequently elected. As its Chairman, Sir Denis organised a number of visits to British Gas. The Court had a fascinating visit to the Morecambe Bay Project in October 1985, and on 13th March 1986, a large number of members had a most interesting evening at the British Gas Research Establishment at Watson House in Fulham with presentations covering a wide range of research topics. A particularly noteworthy event was when a number of Liverymen joined a wide range of individuals at Olympia before boarding a special train to take us to a Gas Technology Exhibition near Manchester. As we were seated together, it was an excellent opportunity for members of the Company to get to know each other during the journeys.

The Charitable Trust was now well established with Sir Denis having led the initial fund raising campaign. British Gas became a significant supporter with a donation to establish the British Gas Engineering Technician Award consisting of a medal and certificate to an employee of British Gas who was or had been a Technician Engineer. This was to be the first of many Company awards with British Gas not only assisting in the short listing of candidates but also funding the Luncheon at Tallow Chandlers Hall at which the award was presented, with the first award being made on 4th March 1986. The award panel was chaired by the Honorary Chaplain, The Reverend Hugh Rom, and we always looked forward to the humorous way in which he introduced the winner and gave the Panel's reasons for its selection. As the number of awards increased we eventually moved to a single Awards Dinner combined with the Installation Dinner, but the format for presentations was established in these early days by the British Gas award.

The Minutes of the Installation Court Meeting in April 1985 record the following:

PRESENTATION OF SILVER The Master said that the British Gas Corporation wished to mark in some permanent way his election as the Second Master of the Company. They therefore wished to present a piece of Victorian silver complementary to the loving cup that they had presented to mark the formation of the Company, indeed it was a further part of the presentation silver of George Nugent Tyrrell – formerly Superintendent of the Great Western Railway.

The piece is a 16 inch round silver salver on four feet, bead edge, border decorated in Adam style with festoons and bows chased floral leaf and scroll decoration, plain round centre engraved "Presented to George Nugent Tyrrell etc." Victorian 1883 made in London by F.E.; weight 62 oz tray. It was presented in January 1889 by the members of the Railway Clearing House Superintendents' Conference consisting of the Superintendents of the Railways of the United Kingdom.

With the salver the Master handed over for incorporation in the Company's Archives the illuminated Address which accompanied the salver at its original presentation in January 1889 together with a testimonial incorporating the names of all the subscribers to a presentation, also made in January 1889 on behalf of all grades of staff in the Great Western

Railway. The whereabouts of the clock, paintings and drawings to which it relates are not known.

The Court expressed their appreciation of this very handsome gift and asked the Master to convey the appreciation of the Court to the British Gas Corporation for wishing to mark the election of Sir Denis Rooke to Master of the Company.

Sir Denis also presented a tea and coffee set which was another part of the Tyrrell Collection leaving just was one final item of the Collection, namely six egg cups and stand, retained by the owner and subsequently presented by her to the Company in January 1988, of which more later.



(The Tyrrell Collection)

This generous gift by the Master and British Gas started yet another tradition: that of the Master's gift. Every year, the Master would either come up with his own suggestion or would ask if I had any ideas. I have always regretted we haven't had more opportunities to use and display the "Tyrrell" tea and coffee set and the egg cups and so I tried to suggest items which would be in regular use. These gifts have ensured that, as a Company, we have an enviable collection of treasures, and in later chapters, it will become clear the significant contribution made to the Company's treasures by succeeding Masters.

The programme of events was becoming established, and the 2nd Annual Banquet was held in the Mansion House on 4th July 1985 and the 2nd Carol Service on 12th December 1985.

On its foundation, the Company had been fortunate in having Michael Leonard as its first Clerk. Michael, a distinguished engineer specialising in soil mechanics, had been Secretary of the Confederation of Engineering Institutions and then Secretary of the Fellowship of Engineering. Well versed in the organisation of professional bodies, he established all the necessary administrative and financial systems needed to run a modern Livery Company. Although the Company always "paid its way", there were hidden advantages of using Michael's office, his PA and the services of the Fellowship Finance Officer. However, Michael had always made it clear that his tenure as Clerk should be limited and so it fell to Sir Denis to initiate procedures to find a new Clerk. In September 1985, the Master sent a letter to all Liverymen asking for suggested names or volunteers. As the number of Freemen increased, so the finances of the Company steadily improved but money was still very tight and the Company was hoping the new Clerk, like Michael, would have access to facilities, on repayment basis, such as meeting rooms, printing and photocopying, and the use of a post room, which implied a Clerk who probably worked for one of the professional institutions. At the beginning of 1985, the Institution of Metallurgists and The Metals Society had merged to form The Institute of Metals, of which I was now Deputy Secretary, and I was certainly interested in the position of Clerk but wasn't sure whether I should apply. However at the Welding Institute Annual Dinner in November 1985, I was seated at the same table as two Court Assistants, Dr. Ted West and Mr. Tony Lee, who after dinner asked if they could put my name forward. I readily agreed with the proviso that they should also seek the consent of my President who was then Liveryman Sir Hugh Ford. I believe that all

three on the shortlist were employed in similar positions by engineering institutions and we were initially interviewed at the BICC offices by Middle Warden Sir William Barlow and Junior Warden Mr. Robert Dunn. I must have made some sort of impression because I was asked to attend a further interview with Sir Denis at British Gas Headquarters. Looking back it seemed more like a friendly discussion than an interview and I was surprised when I discovered I had been with the Master for over an hour. Shortly afterwards, I received a letter from the Master suggesting, that as I had youth on my side (I was 47 at the time!) I consider being the Assistant Clerk, with the possibility of becoming the Clerk about 5 years later. The then Assistant Clerk, Ray Cousins, would stay on the Court as an Assistant so that he would still be available for advice and assistance. This seemed an excellent suggestion, and I rapidly sent off a positive response. However, this was not to be the end of the story and it was left to the next Master to propose further changes.

Sir Denis's year had started with having to find two new Wardens rather than the usual one but he could have reasonably hoped that the succession was relatively clear. The then Middle Warden, Sir William Barlow, wrote, "*At the beginning of 1986 Trevor Crocker was in line to be the master for 86/87 but during the first weeks of 1986 negotiations to sell his civil engineering company adversely affected his health and he stood down from the immediate succession. The then Master, Sir Denis Rooke, asked me if I would step up and take on the Mastership. At really no notice I accepted.*

With no advance planning of diary or events that was a tall order but moreover I was extremely heavily committed with business and professional activities all of which had heavy diary commitments. Looking back I do not know why I accepted or how I coped with it!

And so at the Election Court held in March 1986, Sir William Barlow was elected Master, Trevor Crocker continued as Senior Warden, Robert Dunn became Middle Warden and Assistant, Rear Admiral Peter Hammersley, was the new Junior Warden. The new officers were installed in office on 1st April 1986 and at the same Installation Court, John Drysdale Wilson, Deputy Secretary of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, was appointed as Clerk.



Parts of the Tyrrell Collection.

Above the tea and coffee set

Alongside the Tyrrell Cup now known in the Company as 'The Rooke Cup' and used at Election Court Dinners when the Master welcomes the Master-elect and Wardens-elect



Chapter 3 1986 -87

Master Sir William Barlow FEng

Wardens: Mr. Trevor Crocker, Mr. Robert Dunn FEng & Rear Admiral Peter Hammersly CB OBE



The Master writes: I was a founder liveryman and served as an assistant from the first court meeting in November 1983. I was elected Middle Warden in 1985.

As Chairman and Chief Executive of BICC, Non-exec Deputy Chairman of Thorn EMI, Chairman of the Design Council, Senior Vice President of the Fellowship of Engineering and President of BEAMA (the large electrical industry trade association and in one or other of those capacities I attended all the public engineering functions to which our Master would nowadays be invited. I had to speak at several and took that as chance to promote our new livery company and our objective of impressing on the City the importance of Engineering. As a new company we did not then have many invitations from other livery companies.

I was installed as Master on April 1st 1986. My two speakers at the Installation Dinner were old friends, The Common Sergeant His Honour Judge Thomas Pigot QC who had been at Manchester Grammar School with me and Sir Ronald (now Lord) Dearing who had

succeeded me as Chairman of the Post Office. My son Ian and my son-in-law Richard Midmer were also present which made it a happy evening for me

The next day I had to go on a long arranged business visit to Australia and New Zealand and my overseas BICC commitments caused me to go to the USA, Canada, South Africa, Hong Kong and China, Zimbabwe and numerous European visits during my master's year which compounded diary problems

I also had to cope with an unexpected problem. We had appointed Mr. John Drysdale Wilson, Deputy Secretary of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers as Clerk but after a few unfortunate lapses he and I decided he should step down. This left me seeking Clerk No.3. Here we were lucky. Liveryman Bryan Gibson had earlier indicated some interest when Leonard left and it struck me that he was keen to do it. With his naval career he would likely be well capable of organising our affairs so we appointed him and from the start he did a great job for us. At the time of his appointment I proposed that he should use his naval rank to give him some immediate standing in the City and also the company. The absence of a dependable clerk for some months was a distraction at a busy time.

We were still completing formal issues where we were helped by two honorary liverymen of great influence in the City. One was Stanley Heather, former City Solicitor and the other was "Bunny" Morgan an eminence grise in the City Corporation. Bryan Gibson quickly grasped the issues and he then used them to steer us through potential problems with the City Corporation.

From the start of the Company we were determined to aim for high standards so that we could really justify our objective of "Promoting the importance of Engineering in the national economy." Thus our standard of entry was Fellow of our institutions. We collected a Court of heavyweights in the engineering industry, the armed services and the profession. We decided that the choice of future masters was not to be seniority or "Buggins turn" which is the standard practice of many old livery companies. Quite soon we were noticed as something rather special and our company has increasingly stood out as superior to many other new and old companies. During my year I used my wide range of contacts to press on with our reputation building.

Sir William has, in his own words, covered the first few months of his year in office. Although not yet formally appointed as Assistant Clerk, I was already working with the new Clerk but we got no further than a general discussion on how we might divide up the duties. I was aware John was having difficulties in combining his duties with the IMechE and his new responsibilities as Clerk particularly as his PA had an accident and was off work. However it was still a surprise when Sir William rang late on a Monday evening in mid July to say "We have a Court meeting tomorrow evening and I am going to propose you be appointed as Clerk with immediate effect. I hope you will accept". I didn't hesitate in accepting although I did ask the Master to confirm with both the President and Secretary of the then Institute of Metals that they didn't have any objections. The President, Sir Hugh Ford, was already a Liveryman and the Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Ford, who joined the Company the following year, both gave me their backing and encouragement with the proviso the Institute should always take precedent if there was any conflict of interests. Within days, my office became the repository of all the Company files and papers but there was one pressing issue. The Company's 3rd Annual Banquet to be held in the Mansion House on Friday 3rd October was only 9 weeks away and nothing had been done, not even the calling notice. Fortunately the Master had already invited his principal guests, Lord Pennock of Norton (Chairman Anglo-French Channel Tunnel Consortia), and Sir Trevor Holdsworth (Chairman GKN) and the Mansion House had confirmed we were to have a Lord Mayor Locum Tenens accompanied by the two Sheriffs. The files gave some very useful information on the previous two Banquets which provided a good starting point and, as always Raymond Cousins, who remained as Assistant Clerk, was available for advice and guidance. In those days, menu cards and seating plans were printed externally and the printers needed about 7 days to produce them so last minute changes were an added difficulty. However on the night I did give a sigh of relief when 322 members and their guests were all seated. During the first course John Howard, then City Marshal, turned to me and said "You're the first Clerk this week to get the Sheriffs the right way round". That year there were two Aldermanic Sheriffs who had only been in office for a week and I had seated Alderman & Sheriff Bidwell on the Lord Mayor Locum Tenens right and Alderman and Sheriff Graham on the left which was, it turned out, the right way round but I hadn't appreciated their relative seniority and had treated them in alphabetical order. First time lucky but after that occasion I always checked seniority of Sheriffs and visiting Masters very carefully.

The Master recalls "*The main dinners passed off well like the Banquet and the Ladies livery dinners thanks to our new Clerk who was starting from scratch. We had high quality speakers and the only blot I remember was when I gave the Royal toast West End style instead of City style where the audience rise to the band.*" The Master never realised I got the blame for not apparently briefing him properly.

That evening, the Engineers' Company sword had been laid, prior to dinner, in front of the Master. Sir William had been a prime mover in ensuring the scabbard was decorated with modern engineering achievements such as a satellite, oil rig and Concorde as well as more traditional symbols. Referring to this in his speech the Master attempted to reach and raise the sword but it was too far away. Sir Denis Rooke came to the rescue and one of my abiding memories of that evening is Sir Denis holding the sword aloft and nearly decapitating his neighbours as he did so. After dinner, the Founder Master, Sir Peter Gadsden, queried why the sword had not been processed in front of the Master and Lord Mayor Locum Tenens. In 1984, The Lord Mayor, Dame Mary Donaldson, had given her permission for this to happen when she attended the 1st Banquet and as it had been repeated in 1985, Sir Peter assumed this would continue but no-one had told me. The following year, I sought guidance from the Sword bearer and although he advised the Lord Mayor that it was our equivalent of a mace, the Lord Mayor refused permission for our sword to be processed in the Mansion House. The Sword bearer advised me to bide our time and it wasn't until 1993 when Past Master Sir Francis McWilliams was Lord Mayor that I made a further request and this time permission was granted. Our Sword has been processed in front of every Lord Mayor since then.

A few days after the Banquet, I attended my first Court Meeting as Clerk. This proved to be a very difficult meeting as Sir William recalls "*A problem which in retrospect seems almost trivial caused me a lot of trouble. Trevor Crocker had recovered from his illness and had accepted the Mastership of the Glaziers' Company for the year 1987. He wanted to succeed me as Master of our company which would have meant him being Master of both companies at the*

same time. With different standards and with us in our formative state this was clearly unacceptable but we had a couple of uncomfortable court meetings between which I had difficult private meetings in which he pleaded his case. We turned him down. Later he became our Master which he did well."

It had become the tradition to cloth new Liverymen at the end of Court meetings and then invite them to join the Court for drinks. Prior to the meeting Sir William said to me "Raymond Cousins really does the clothing very well" but I felt, as a new Clerk, that I should handle this. Although Sir William said nothing, I could sense I didn't do as well as Raymond so we reverted to the previous system and it was 20 years before, as Master, I did another clothing.

Before he retired, the Founder Clerk, Michael Leonard, had been in discussion with the Royal Engineers on ways of cementing the accord. Sir William recalls



"In connection with regalia the Corps of Royal Engineers suggested "an exchange of silver". It was a nice gesture but easy for them as they have a great number of items in store. For us it was an expense because we had to have a piece made specially. We chose a silver gavel and a sounding box. I had another gavel made which I presented to the Company and it has been used at every meeting since. To celebrate the "exchange" we invited to dinner the Chief Royal Engineer and Honorary Liveryman General Sir Hugh Beech and some of his officers. We were a little daunted when he produced a list of Sapper generals and brigadiers numbering twenty-one with the

most junior being their Regimental Colonel. The dinner took place in the Armourer's Hall and was a memorable occasion. We had earlier signed a "concordat" with The Royal Engineers and the dinners set the seal on a very fruitful, cordial relationship with the Corps which has given us great pleasure. An officer present that night liked what he saw of the Company and joined as a liveryman and became our Master for 2004/5 Major General Ted Wilmot CB.

This dinner in January 1987 was also memorable for two other reasons. The Engineer-in-Chief, Major General Jeremy Rougier CB, had joined the Company and was ready to be admitted as a Liveryman. Before the Reception, the Court was therefore formally convened in the Drawing Room of Armourers' Hall and General Rougier made his declaration to the Master, Wardens and Court of Assistants and was formally clothed in the Livery and welcomed into the Company in front of his fellow officers.



As his gift to the Company, Sir William donated a gavel in the shape of a mason's mallet which was identical to the gavel presented to the Royal Engineers. It has been used at every Livery and Court function since then.

The Company Gavel

We didn't have our own Beadle and had, since our formation, used other Company Beadles or Toastmasters and for a time, Sir William's former steward at the Post Office also assisted. For the dinner at Armourers' Hall it was proving difficult to find someone to officiate and a member of my staff at the IoM suggested the Head of our Print Room, Stephen Grundy, as a possibility. Stephen had never done anything like this before but he readily agreed. I remember saying to him "We will dress you in a fancy gown and I will give you a series of cards. Whenever I give a sign you will gavel and read the words on the next card". Stephen did very well and he has been our Beadle at every function since then. Indeed I could never have managed without his support, friendship and assistance. The Master was also impressed despite Stephen's relatively long hair and he arranged for him to understudy very experienced Beadles and Toastmasters officiating at functions of other organisations in the City when Sir William was in the chair.

Our relationship with the Royal Engineers was being noticed by other engineering branches of the Armed Forces and this led to other visits and contacts as Sir William explains

"We did not neglect REME and had their Director General Major General John Boyne as guest speaker at our Winter Dinner in Plaisters' Hall along with Robert Scholey, Chairman British Steel. John Boyne and I struck up a friendship that night which has given me great pleasure in the world of horse racing where he has controlled the Dubai Royal Family's affairs in Britain since his retirement from the Army.

During this year we organised a series of Livery visits to the Design Council, Thorn EMI and the Post Office at Mount Pleasant. In October 1986, the Company was represented at the Lion Sermon in St. Katherine Cree given by Terry Waite. The Carol Service was held on 18th December 1986 and the British Gas Technician Awards on 24th February 1987 in Tallow Chandlers' Hall.

On 25th February 1987, the Election Court was held in Ironmongers' Hall when Robert Dunn FREng was elected Master and this was followed by a dinner for Liverymen only. Even this did not, however, go quite according to plan. Liveryman Peter Rowe, a distinguished chemical engineer but also a skilled woodworker had offered to make and donate to the Company a lectern in apple wood. I don't know how the Master kept a straight face as Peter Rowe struggled up the stairs with a beautifully made but rather large lectern. It obviously had to be used for speeches after dinner but the Beadle, with the staff at Ironmongers Hall, spent most of the evening trying to find suitable boxes on which to elevate Sir William so he could be seen over the lectern. We just about succeeded but the lectern was only used thereafter for lectures when it could be mounted on a low table. Some years later, Sir Frederick Crawford presented a silver lectern of a size more appropriate for the dinner table.



The Master has the final say on a memorable year *"My year as Master was very much different from what later masters have enjoyed. We were on a steep learning curve, having to make ourselves known and setting our standards of election and etiquette. As I was nowhere near retirement I had no time for an "out-of-town" meeting which in any case had not then become as fashionable as they are now. There were few occasions when my wife, Elaine, was involved but she enjoyed those they were and patiently put up with all the extra time I had to spend on the company.*

I am glad I did it and all I hope is that I helped the company to get going"

Loving Cup presented by the Corps of Royal Engineers.

Chapter 4 1987 – 1988

Master Mr. Robert B Dunn FREng
Wardens: Rear Admiral Peter Hammersley CB OBE, Mr. Tony Lee FREng
& Alderman Francis McWilliams



The procedure and declarations for installing a new Master and Wardens had been agreed some years earlier and have remained unchanged throughout the life of the Company but this was the first time I had been involved. The Institution of Metallurgists, by now called The Institute of Metals, had been part of an informal group which had, for a number of years, been considering possible involvement in a Livery Company of which Robert Dunn had been a leading member so his installation as Master had a personal significance. It was also the first installation in which I played a part.

Robert Dunn recalls:

In the beginning there were three Engineering Institutions with certain common interests that met periodically through involvement in the mining industry. They formed a committee of nine engineers consisting of three groups of three with a rotating Chairmanship. Not surprisingly they became known as the 'nine wise men'.

Inevitably the status of Engineers in the City of London was reviewed and a decision made to pursue Livery status for qualified engineers to give a much needed recognition to our profession. As I was the only Liveryman in the group, I was asked to Chair a sub committee and make suitable arrangements. As any new Livery requires the submission of a Petition from at least forty existing Liverymen, I had to look for suitable names and initially invited Trevor Crocker as we were both Liverymen of the Glaziers' Company.

Experience taught me that success would depend on the choice of a leader for which Peter Gadsden had all the right credentials, having both the right qualifications and experience. He took over the reins of the "Fledgling" Committee and quickly produced a programme leading to our application to the Court of Aldermen for the Grant of Letters Patent.

I always regarded the most important task leading to and during my own year of office as quite simply recruitment. The interest shown for an Engineering Livery was quite remarkable and thoroughly justified all our efforts to establish a much needed voice for engineering in the City of London. It was indeed a surprise for me to note during my year of office that four other Masters of City Livery Companies were also Chartered Engineers including the Master of the Cooks' Company.

The Installation Court and Dinner were held on 7th April 1987 in Clothworkers' Hall with principal guests, Sir Robert Haslam (Chairman British Coal) and Mr. Murdock Spence (President ABMEC). A distinguished naval engineer, Admiral Sir Lindsay Bryson KCB FREng was Warden of the Cooks' Company and due to be installed as Master later in the year so we joined together with the Cooks' Company for a visit to Tower Bridge on 18th May 1987. The City Engineer Len Groome, a Liveryman of the Engineers' Company, gave us a conducted tour and very informative talk before we assembled on the high walkways for drinks and refreshments.

In July, the first Company golf day was held on 13th July at Stoke Poges Golf Club courtesy of Liverymen, Father and Son George Rooley and Richard Rooley. Two days later we visited the Royal Naval College Greenwich, Dept of Nuclear Science & Technology in which I had served from 1970 to 1972 and also the Cutty Sark for a tour and refreshments. The river trip to and from Greenwich was also much enjoyed and resulted in many future requests for events on the Thames. In September 1987 a visit to the Welding

Institute at Abington near Cambridge, whilst reflecting my own interests, showed the importance of the science and technology of joining materials to all branches of engineering.

In September the Master and I also attended a ceremony on the South Bank to mark the formal start of the Globe Theatre project to which we had made a donation. The American actor Sam Wannamaker had dreamed for years of recreating the Globe Theatre near its original site and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh was invited to ceremonially 'plant' one of the oak pillars which would later form part of the main structure. We sat in pouring rain for over an hour on what was then a derelict piece of land and it was only later we discovered it would be several years before building work actually started. Whenever I now visit the finished Globe Theatre, a truly magnificent achievement, I can recall with pride that the Engineers' Company were there right at the start.

Our Annual Banquet held in the Mansion House on 2nd October had particular significance as the Founder Master, Sir Peter Gadsden attended representing the Lord Mayor and the other principal guest was Lord Ezra a former Chairman of the Coal Board under whom the Master had served as Director General of Mining.

When the Company was granted its Letter Patent, the maximum size of the Livery was set at 300 and such was the success of the Company that this number was reached in 1986 barely 3 years after our formation. From the very beginning there had been a number of major events in London and technical visits around the country to places of engineering interest. However pressure was growing, from within the membership, for more social events in London but the Master's diary was so full which seemed to preclude other events. The Court agreed, however, to a Warden's Lecture Dinner at which the Wardens would be the hosts and the Master would not attend. The Senior Warden would be in the chair, good training for his forthcoming year, the Middle Warden would give the vote of thanks to the speaker and the Junior Warden would propose the Company Toast. The first such event was held in Armourers' Hall on 25th November with John Uff QC as the speaker. John who is also an engineer later joined the Company as a Liveryman.



At the Winter Livery Dinner held at Plaisterers' Hall in on 4th February 1988, we succeeded in getting together the other Chartered Engineers who were also Masters of other Companies namely The Master Pavior Sir Kirby Laing, The Master Cook Admiral Sir Lindsay Bryson, The Master Glazier, Trevor Crocker, and The Master Turner, Major General L Atkinson with the inevitable result of the caption to the photograph reading "Masters of Engineering". The speakers that evening were Laurie Penzer OBE and Mr. F Ash-Lincoln QC.

The Masters of Engineering at Plaisterers' Hall

Another new event was The Bridge Lecture. The idea of a joint Engineers' Company/City University lecture had been under discussion since the formation of the Company as we wished to establish links with established City institutions and collaboration with City University with its long history of involvement in engineering and technology, was a natural choice particularly as The Lord Mayor is Chancellor of the City University during his year in office. A major lecture every two years was the format chosen but what to call it. The name "The Bridge Lecture" would seem to derive naturally from our involvement with Ironbridge and the presence of Tower Bridge in our armorial bearings. However it really comes from one of the objects of the Company which is "to provide a bridge between those who practise engineering and those who benefit there from". Initially it was intended that the choice of lecturer, who was expected to also answer questions after the lecture, would alternate between an engineer and a non engineer but that hasn't really been followed. Hence the inaugural lecturer David Walker (a Director of the Bank of England) was followed

by Robert Horton (Chairman of BP) with subsequent lecturers being Graham Day (Chairman of British Aerospace), Howard Davies (CBI), Alderman Paul Newall (Lehman Brothers), Dr. James Smith (Chairman Eastern Group), The Bishop of London and in 2002, Dr. Robert Hawley (Chairman of Taylor Woodrow) described by the then Master, Andrew Jackson, in his introduction as "an imminent engineer". In 2004 the lecturer was John Armit (Chief Executive of Network Rail), in 2006, Dame Judith Mayhew Jonas (Chairman of The Royal Opera House) and in 2008 John Burton (Surveyor to the Fabric of Canterbury Cathedral and Westminster Abbey). The event has become a major event in both the Company's and University's calendar.

A further innovation, the introduction of the Ladies Luncheon for Lady members and partners of members in 1987 proved much more difficult. This was Mrs Dunn's idea but the Court was luke-warm believing that a Ladies-only event wouldn't attract support - at the very most 20! So I booked the Aldermen's dining room in Guildhall (maximum 30) for 21st March 1987 but the bookings reached 45. At a late stage, we had to change location to the Guildhall Club and the sit-down meal became a buffet. Experience has taught me that once things start going wrong they don't know when to stop and so it proved. At the last minute, I couldn't get there, there weren't enough chairs and the staff was shorthanded. Not a success and it was three years before Wyn McWilliams re-introduced the event with a Lunch at Plaisterers' Hall and a visit to the Museum of London. However after that shaky start the lunch is now an established event of each Master's year.

In 1986 the Election Court Dinner had become part of the programme. As we don't have the equivalent of an Annual General Meeting, Sir Denis Rooke felt that there should be an opportunity for the Master to report on his year in office and that this should be one occasion when only Liverymen were present, something that continues to this day. In 1987, Robert Dunn, and I attended the Election Dinner of the Drapers' Company at which we witnessed a centuries old ceremony after dinner at which the new Master and Wardens were formally introduced to the Livery. We both liked the idea and on 23rd February 1988, we introduced our own version at the Election Court Dinner and as this was "well-liked" it has with some variations now become the norm for this event. In the Drapers' ceremony, they don't pass the Loving Cup until after the Loyal and Royal toasts and the new Master is introduced which is the style we followed. The Founder Master felt that this went against City tradition and, after advice from the Chamberlain; the Loving Cup ceremony was rescheduled to its traditional place after the sung Grace. However I still liked the idea of having a Loving Cup associated with the Presentation of the new Master and Wardens so I had the Beadle keep the "The Tyrrell Cup" (usually known as the Rooke cup) separate from the rest and then used by the Master to greet the Master-elect and the new Wardens later in the evening. An excellent compromise or Founder Master 1/ Clerk 1.

It seemed as though a very full and successful year was coming to a close in which there had been a number of interesting changes many of which have now stood the test of time. There were, however, two more significant events yet to occur. Back in 1984, Sir Peter Gadsden had been appointed Chairman of the Britain Australia Bicentennial Committee; the bicentennial being in 1988. By this time Sir Peter had also become Master of the Clothworkers' Company and so on 8th March 1988 the Master and I attended the Britain Australia Bicentennial Dinner at Clothworkers Hall at which the principal guest was the High Commissioner for Australia with Sir Peter in the chair both as Master and Commission Chairman.

The final event of the year occurred on 14th April 1988 when the first Young Consulting Engineer Award was presented by HRH The Duke of Kent at the QEII Conference Centre. This new award had arisen from an initiative by Peter Pellereau, a Liveryman but also Secretary of the Association of Consulting Engineer, who had suggested a joint award between our two organisations between which there was a certain commonality of membership. We agreed to run an annual award for a young consulting engineer under the age of 30 who had to be nominated by an ACE member firm. The ACE made a single covenanted payment to cover the cost of the award which was to include a silver medal, certificate and an award of £500.00 and the award was made every year until 2004 when changes within the profession made it difficult to select and fund further award winners.

Chapter 5 1988 – 89

Master Rear Admiral Peter G Hammersley CB OBE

Wardens: Mr. Tony Lee FREng, Alderman Francis McWilliams & Sir Ronald Ellis FREng



I first met Rear Admiral Peter (Spam) Hammersley when he became Captain of the Royal Naval Engineering College (HMS THUNDERER) at Manadon near Plymouth in 1978 and he was my last Commanding Officer as I retired from the Royal Navy later that year. It was therefore a surprise and a great pleasure to see him seated as a Member of the Court when I was admitted to the Livery in July 1984. Now almost 10 years since Manadon we were to serve together again as Master and Clerk but I first had to solve a minor problem over our processional march.

We have always been fortunate in being able to call on the services of the Royal Engineers Light Orchestra to play at our events. Shortly after I became Clerk, the Regimental Colonel Royal Engineers told me that the Band was going to compose an Engineers' Company processional march to be used at major events. The Beadles of the Livery Halls are great guardians of city tradition as I discovered very

early on. The Beadle to the Plaisterers' Company discovered minutes before the Master's procession at the 1988, Winter (Ladies) Livery Dinner that the Band were going to play the march "Scipio" by Handel. This is the Lord Mayor's tune and should, I was told firmly but politely, only be played in the City when the Lord Mayor is present which he wasn't on this occasion. The Plaisterers' Beadle insisted on a change and that night we entered to Roast Beef of Old England. The need for our own tune was now pressing but nothing was forthcoming from the Sappers so I decided to mark our time together at the RNEC that the band would play "The Thunderer" by Sousa whenever The Master entered in procession during his year. This was so well received that the Court subsequently adopted "The Thunderer" as our official processional march.

The Installation Court and Installation Dinner were held for the first time in Carpenter's Hall with principal guests Vice Admiral Sir John Lea (shortly to be Master Plumber) and Mr. Michael Ridley, Headmaster, of Denstone College (The Master's old school). Appropriately, on 12th and 13th May 1988, the first visit was to the Royal Naval Engineering College for the Annual Cocktail Party and followed by a tour of the College next day. Having spent 10 years of my naval career at the RNEC it was good to be back and it gave the Master and me considerable pleasure to see what a great impression the staff and students made on our members. Subsequently, Sir William Barlow was invited to present the awards at the College Degree Ceremony.

Members of the Engineer's Livery had always been good attendees at Common Hall for the elections of the Sheriffs and Lord Mayor but this year was rather special as on 24th June 1988, Alderman Francis McWilliams, our Middle warden, was elected the Aldermanic Sheriff. Frank was a founder member of the Company and sometime earlier Sir William and I had had informal discussions with him as to when, if the Court agreed, he would wish to be Master assuming he would eventually progress to Lord Mayor. Frank had indicated his preference was to be Master before Lord Mayor and so had been elected Junior Warden in 1987 and Middle Warden this year. Although not able to attend many events, I arranged with Frank for all the Committees of which he was a member to be held in the Old Bailey.

The Court Meeting and dinner on 5th July was held at Watermen's' Hall when Liveryman Frank Chorley, President of the Institution of Electronics and Electrical Engineering presented a "Hologram" to the Company to mark the merger of his Institution with the Institution of Electrical Engineers.

On 28th July 1988 we arranged for a private evening viewing of the exhibition "Parliament & the Glorious Revolution" at the Banqueting House in Whitehall and on 17th September we visited the Ironbridge Gorge Museum near Telford in Shropshire. Our first visit to Ironbridge in 1984 had been specifically to unveil a plaque of the Company's Arms with little time to see many of the Museum sites so, in a way, this was the first opportunity for many Liverymen to see just how extensive an area the Museum covers. Since 1984, the Master had also been, ex-officio, a Trustee of the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Development Trust and our Charitable Trust Fund made an annual contribution to the Museum so a visit was overdue.

Earlier in the year, the Company had been asked whether it would participate in the London River Festival in early September. I didn't really see our members being able to row a whaler from Chelsea to Greenwich but the Royal Naval engineering training establishments were keen to represent us. Eventually four naval whalers from RNEC, HMS SULTAN, HMS COLLINGWOOD and HMS DAEDALUS took part. We organised a Thames pleasure boat for the day and escorted the crews on the final part of their journey and then arranged a reception and supper at the Trafalgar Inn in Greenwich for the crews. Although we hoped that might be an annual event, we only managed to do it once again albeit on a lesser scale in 1990 as the Navy hadn't the manpower or time to get further involved but it was a great day on the river.

The annual programme was now well established but except for all-day visits, everything was in the evening. The Programme Committee suggested a "Freemans' Lunch" opened to all members but specially targeted at those members who had not yet been clothed in the Livery. We had reached the maximum number of Liverymen and Freemen had to wait for a vacancy caused by either death or resignation so it was felt important to retain their interest. The first Freemans' Lunch was held on 20th September and seemed a success. However, although two further such lunches were held in 1989 and 1990, the numbers attending steadily reduced and this event was discontinued in 1991.

At the Annual banquet held in the Mansion House on 7th October, the principal guests were the Lord Mayor Alderman Sir Greville Spratt and the Chief of the Defence Staff, Admiral of the Fleet Sir John Fieldhouse. We all particularly enjoyed welcoming our Middle Warden Alderman & Sheriff Francis McWilliams as part of the Civic Team.

Earlier in the year, I had become aware that it was usual for those Livery Companies associated with the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs to make presentations to them at a private ceremony in the Crypt of Guildhall prior to the Lord Mayor's Show. Having taken advice from other Clerks, we agreed the wording and production of an Illuminated Address to Alderman & Sheriff McWilliams which was then presented by the Master, Wardens and Clerk. This is a fascinating ceremony which is never publicised but which clearly demonstrates the close relationship between the Civic Team and the Livery. Four years later I was to attend another of these ceremonies but that is for a later chapter.

At the Wardens' Dinner on 16th November, the speaker was the Deputy Town Clerk, Tom Simmons and the Annual Carol Service was held at St. Katherine Cree Church on 15th December with refreshments served in the Church after the Service. The British Gas Technician Awards Luncheon held at Tallow Chandlers' Hall on 22nd March was another regular event in the Court Diary.

Our Charitable Trust Fund was growing in size and we were beginning to make regular donations to a number of other organisations and charities including the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Development Trust and the Royal Engineers Museum but more funds were needed. During this year I was approached by Liverymen Douglas Simpson and Colin Bates who were Trustees of a now dormant charity called the British National Committee for Materials and who felt our charity would be an excellent recipient of their funds. After discussions with the Charity Commission and the appropriate legal announcements in the press, the sum of over £11,000.00 (a considerable amount in those days) was transferred to our fund to establish an award to encourage the art, science and technology of materials. Over the following years grants were made principally to the Camborne School of Mines to fund MSc projects and undergraduate scholarships until the funds were eventually exhausted.



The Tyrrell Collection Egg Cups

The Ladies Livery Dinner at Plaisterers' Hall on 18th January 1989 included a presentation by Elizabeth Charvet of the final item of the Tyrrell Collection. The majority of this collection made to Edward Nugent Tyrrell on his retirement as Superintendent of the Great Western Railway in 1889 had been presented by Sir Denis Rooke and British Gas in 1984 but the Charvet family had retained one piece, 6 silver egg cups on a silver stand, which was now formally handed over to the Master. The collection is one of the most

prized items amongst the Company's treasures but, as many of the pieces are small, it was rarely seen at public events. However, following the re-furbishment of Wax Chandlers' Hall, which became our home in 2002, display space was made available in the Court Room in 2008.

The Master's year was rapidly coming to a close and the Election Court Meeting and Dinner was held on 7th March 1989. Since our inception, the Annual Service before the Election Court had been conducted by our Honorary Chaplain, The Reverend Hugh Rom, but this year he was unwell. Fortunately the Master was able to contact a Royal Naval Chaplain who had been at the RNEC when he was in command and The Reverend Michael Bucks Royal Navy proved an excellent stand-in. We also had difficulties finding an organist so at the last minute Assistant Trevor Crocker played for us. The organ at St. Katherine Cree is of historical interest and had been a great instrument but time and lack of maintenance had taken its toll so all credit to Trevor for an excellent musical accompaniment.



At the start of his year, the Master had indicated he would like to make a presentation to the Company to mark his year and after discussion we agreed a brooch to be worn by the Master's Lady would be an excellent addition to our treasures. The Company silversmith, Alan Henn, was asked to produce designs based on the Company Coat of Arms. I recall several meetings in my office with the Master, Cynthia Hammersley and Alan as we considered alternative designs but eventually we all agreed and the new Master's Lady's Brooch was produced. At the Ladies Dinner in January Cynthia wore it for the first time and at the Installation Court in March, Peter formally presented it to the Company. The brooch has been much admired and I know every Master's Lady has enjoyed wearing it.

"The Master's Lady's Brooch"

I was already finding that each Master's year had its own unique character but this one, with its naval flavour, was a particular pleasure. Each Master had started to entertain privately their predecessors often to discuss Company matters and on a separate occasion, the Wardens and Clerk with their wives. These were always most enjoyable, relaxed and informative gatherings. Despite my best efforts, I was unable to find two separate dates for these gatherings so this year, Peter hosted a joint dinner for Past Masters, Wardens and the Clerk at the Army and Navy Club in Pall Mall. And so another year came to a close.

Chapter 6 1989 – 1990

Master Mr. G Anthony (Tony) Lee FREng
Wardens Alderman Francis McWilliams, Sir Ronald Ellis FREng
& Mr. Gerald Mortimer CBE MBE FREng



Tony Lee was another Founder Member who was member of the very first Court of the Company. He had also been Treasurer of the then Fellowship of Engineering and during our early years acted as an unofficial Treasurer to the Company so ensuring our finances were in order. As a Past President of the Institution of Chemical Engineers, I also knew Tony through contacts on the professional Institutes circuit and as previously mentioned he was one of the Court Members who encouraged me to stand as Clerk.

The Installation Court & Livery Dinner took place on 11th April 1989 at Carpenters' Hall with the principal guests being Sir James Hamilton KCB, FRSE FREng (former Permanent Secretary to the Department of Education), and Professor Frank Hartley (Dean, Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham). Our new Senior Warden, Alderman & Sheriff McWilliams was unable to attend the Installation Court and it was the July Court Meeting before he could make his declaration of office. Our new Junior Warden was Gerry Mortimer another Founder Member and the last Chairman of the Chartered Engineering Institutions (CEI). Gerry had always been seen as a potential Master but his commitments to Surrey County Council, where he was Deputy Chairman, had precluded greater involvement with the Company. However with more free time he was anxious to proceed to the chair but there was a feeling amongst the Past Masters that, although only 73, he was perhaps too old. It had been suggested to Gerry that in recognition of his services to the Company he should serve just 1 year as Junior Warden only to which he agreed. However at the end of Tony Lee's year this was to give us major problems.



This year was the 800th Anniversary of the Mayoralty for which special commemorative pieces had been commissioned. One item was a limited edition silver beaker, produced by Garrards, to reflect designs of the early 13th century and the Company was lucky enough to acquire no.94 (our position in the order of precedence). As part of the 800th Anniversary celebrations, the 1st Livery Exhibition was held in Guildhall on 11th & 12th July. The Company stand had a model of an oil rig generously loaned by British Gas and British Gas also designed and printed explanatory booklets. The stand attracted considerable attention and all of us who helped to man it had great fun meeting the many members of the public who came to the exhibition. A further 800th event was on 20th September when students from Kings College London who had received grants from the Lord Mayor's 800th Anniversary Trust gave presentations in the Mansion House on a visit they had undertaken to Nepal.

Tony Lee had been for many years a member of the Court of Cranfield Institute of Technology and he was also a former Royal Engineer so it was natural he should organise, on 6th June, a visit to Silsoe Campus, at Cranfield for a presentation on agricultural engineering and on 26th September, a visit the Royal Engineers at Chatham with lunch in Royal Engineers' Headquarters officers' mess. The year also contained a Freeman's

Lunch at Apothecaries Hall on 20th June, a Company Golf Day at Stoke Poges on 7th August and the Annual Carol Service at St. Katherine Cree on 18th December when the organ was again played by Trevor Crocker.

Many of the Court had been able to visit the Old Bailey for meetings or for lunch whilst Frank McWilliams was Sheriff and I was therefore very pleased we were able, on 18th July 1989, to arrange an evening Livery Visit to the Old Bailey. We had a fascinating evening particular as the Sheriff, assisted by the Secondary, showed us around the building. The tour finished with a reception in Lord Mayor's Dining Room hosted by Mr. Alderman & Sheriff Frank and Mrs. Wyn McWilliams.

Our Annual Banquet in the Mansion House on 6th October 1989 was to be the last held there until 1994 as the Mansion House was closing for a major refurbishment. As part of our special relationship with the Royal Engineers, the principal guest was the Chief Royal Engineer Sir George Cooper. Having recently completed his term of office as the Aldermanic Sheriff, our Senior Warden Frank McWilliams was seated at the end of the sprig next to mine. Somehow, the napkin on the Loving Cup got caught on the table and when Frank rose with the cup, the contents spilt all over his dress shirt. Being very familiar with the Mansion House and its staff, Frank sent a message to the Lord Mayor, Sir Christopher Collett, asking if he might borrow a shirt and, hastily withdrawing to the private quarters upstairs, the Senior Warden shortly returned looking his usual immaculate self in time to propose the toast to "The Guests".

Other events were the Wardens Lecture Dinner on 6th November with a talk on the Channel Tunnel by Mr. E Hugh Norie from Mott MacDonald and the Ladies Livery Dinner at Drapers' Hall on 7th February 1990 with guests Mr. Derek Kingsbury CBE Chairman & Chief Executive Fairey Group Plc and Sir Peter Cazalet KBE CB DSO DSC, Chairman APV Ltd. The 2nd Bridge Lecture entitled "Engineers & Education – Meeting an Urgent Need" was held at the City University on 14th February 1990 and was given by Robert Horton, Deputy Chairman (Chairman designate) of BP of which the Master was a former employee.

Following the success of the Britain Australia Bicentennial, we were fortunate through the good offices of the Chairman Sir Peter Gadsden to be given a grant of £15,000.00 to establish the Britain Australia Bicentennial Engineering Award which was to assist either a British engineer to study in Australia or an Australian engineer to study in this country. In later years the award was renamed "The Sir Peter Gadsden Britain Australia Engineering Award".



When the Master and I attended other Livery Company events, I noticed many had individual silver goblets for use by the officers so when Tony broached the matter of a Master's gift I suggested he might like to start off a collection of goblets. I didn't expect him to be so generous and ask our silversmith to produce 6 goblets all engraved with our Coat of Arms. Initially these were always used by the Master, Wardens, Chaplain and Clerk.

It had been agreed that the Election Court would usually be held on the first Tuesday in March at the City of London Club and this year when Alderman McWilliams was elected Master it was the first occasion the Master-elect had held all 3 offices of Warden in succession but the rest of the elections were not to be so straightforward. Gerry Mortimer, having previously agreed to only serve one year as a Warden, was now insisting on progressing further but there were increasing concerns about his health. He had made a rambling and largely incoherent intervention during the question and answer session after the Bridge Lecture and the pressure was on the Master and me to stop him holding further office. The only answer seemed to be a contested election for Middle Warden and John Bartlett was persuaded to stand against Gerry. To make it seem fair, we were advised to also hold a contested election for Junior Warden and Gerald Clerehugh and Waheeb Rizk agreed to stand although Waheeb made it clear he didn't wish to be elected. At the Court, Gerry absented himself and the elections went according "to plan". Sometimes I thought "buggins turn" had a lot to commend itself.

A Company Treasure

Abraham Darby III Tankard presented to the Company in Ironbridge September 1984. The tankard is believed to have been a 21st Birthday present



"The Staff"

The Beadle, Stephen Grundy, The Clerk, Bryan Gibson, and the Assistant Clerk, Raymond Cousins photographed at The City of London Club after their re-appointment at the Election Court held in March 1998.

Chapter 7 1990 – 1991

Master Alderman (later Sir) Francis McWilliams (GBE) FREng
Wardens: Sir Ronald Ellis FREng, Mr. J V Bartlett CBE FREng & Mr. G Clerehugh OBE FREng



The Installation Court and Dinner were held in Ironmongers' Hall on 24th April 1990; the Court having decided the installation would normally be on the last Tuesday in April. The principal guests were The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mackay of Clashfern QC, The Lord High Chancellor and Alderman Commander Sir Robin Gillett Bt. GBE., a former Lord Mayor, who was now the senior Alderman. We now had a Master who could reasonably expect to be a future Lord Mayor and this was reflected in the increased number of invitations he and I received from other Livery Companies.

The first Livery event of this year was a visit to the Garden of the Rose near St. Albans followed by a reception at the Master's House which was also near St. Albans. In the Master's study I noticed his sword as a Dato of Malaysia was displayed on the wall and it occurred to me that a replica of our sword would make an excellent presentation if Frank eventually became Lord Mayor. However I had to rethink this when I later investigated the possible costs of even a smaller copy of the sword.

The Master was a keen golfer and had taken a Company team up to Edinburgh when he was Sheriff so he and Wyn once again supported our Annual Golf Day on 11th July at Stoke Poges. On 5th September 1990, the Ladies Luncheon was revived when Wyn McWilliams hosted a lunch at Plaisterers' Hall followed by a talk and tour of the Museum of London. This was such a success the Ladies Luncheon has been held every year since then. On 15th September we, for the last time, attended the London River Race and supported a single entry from the Royal Navy.

Frank was an Honorary Liveryman of the Plaisterers' Company so it was particularly apt that the first Banquet to be held outside the Mansion House should be in Plasterers' Hall. In the absence of the Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Alan Davis, attended as Lord Mayor Locum Tenens together with the Sheriffs. Reflecting the Master's Scottish ancestry the other principal guest was Sir Peter Heatly CBE Master Merchant Adventurer of the City of Edinburgh who had attended Edinburgh University with the Master.

Following the now well established pattern, the Wardens Dinner was held on 14th November when the Junior Warden, Gerry Clerehugh spoke on environmental issues particularly the effect of greenhouse gases; the Carol Service was held at St. Katherine Cree on 18th December and the British Gas Technician's Luncheon at Watermen's' Hall on 22nd April 1991.

Having served as Sheriff, Frank was now likely to be elected Lord Mayor in 1992, so we did receive rather more than usual invitations to other Livery Companies. It is always interesting to attend these events as every Company does things slightly differently and over the years we have changed our own procedures to incorporate good ideas gleaned from seeing others at work. There was, however, one event when the Master of the Company we were visiting gave an inordinately long and rambling speech which did nothing to enhance his chances of further advancement within the City.

The Ladies Livery Dinner was held at Goldsmiths' Hall on 31st January 1991 proved to be memorable for all the wrong reasons as the Master explained in his book "Pray Silence for Jock Whittington" which he wrote in 2002. I quote"

'Murphy's Law' states that on any occasion anything that can go wrong will go wrong. My experience of this law came when I was Master of the Worshipful Company of Engineers. We were having a Livery Dinner at the Goldsmiths' Hall, one of the most elegant and sumptuously decorated of Livery Halls in the City. Its chandeliers can be used either with electric bulbs or with real candles. If you want the real candles you have to pay an extra hire charge, but it is worth it. The Company has of course a fabulous collection of gold and silver some of which is put on display when there is an event in the hall. There is a story told about a Master of the Company who arranged for his daughter's wedding reception to be held in the hall. Some of the Company's treasures were on display. An awe-struck guest from their home village was heard to comment that the couple had received some marvellous wedding-presents.

As the time for going into the Engineer's dinner approached, Bryan Gibson, the Learned Clerk of the Company, asked if we could go in. I knew that one of the principal guests had not yet arrived. So I asked Bryan to hold on for a little while. Later he came back and said that the caterers were becoming agitated. They felt that the food would be spoiled. I told him that we should give the guest two more minutes. Almost immediately he arrived full of apologies. His driver had taken him to the wrong hall. First crisis over.

The dinner proceeded without incident and we reached the stage where the Loyal Toasts are drunk. Here the Master rises without a glass in his hand and calls 'The Queen'. The band strikes up and plays 'God Save The Queen'. Usually this is sung with great gusto. At the appropriate moment I stood up and exclaimed in a loud voice 'The Queen'. There was dead silence. I waited to give the band a chance to play, then I picked up my glass and said again, 'The Queen' and raised my glass to drink. The band started up. The next toast is to the Royal Family. At that time the Toast was, 'Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince and Princess of Wales, (the Princess of Wales was dropped after the divorce and, of course, the Queen Mother is now no longer with us) and the other members of the Royal Family'. I did this and waited for the band to strike up the shortened version of the National Anthem. I waited and I waited but nothing happened. I thought 'This time for sure they are not going to play'. So I said, 'The Royal Family', and raised my glass to drink. The band struck up.

After the Loyal Toasts the coffee was served. While I was drinking my coffee the Company Beadle, Stephen Grundy, who was acting as Master of Ceremonies came to me and said, 'The Dean has had a nose-bleed. He does not think that he can speak.' He was referring to the late Very Reverend Peter Moore, the Dean of St Albans Abbey. Peter, a very gentle man, who was due to reply to the toast to the guests and propose a toast to the Worshipful Company of Engineers. I followed Stephen out of the room to where Peter was sitting in an anteroom. His face was grey and his handkerchief was soaked in blood. He was most apologetic. I told him, with more confidence than I felt, not to worry, as I would sort it out. I gave him a clean handkerchief and returned to the hall. I spoke to Sir Denis Rooke who is a Past-Master of the Company, I told him what had happened and asked him to say a few words and to propose a toast to the Company. He agreed to do so. I then proceeded to alter my speech to take account of the fact that the Dean was not now speaking. Just then the Beadle appeared and said that the Dean was feeling much better and would be happy to give his speech and propose the toast. All the bits that I had scored out were now back in. I thanked Sir Denis and told him that he was not now required to speak. Peter made an excellent and very witty speech.

It was now my turn. I stood up and put my speech on the lectern. The speech was going well and I was recovering my confidence when, horror of horrors, the speech slipped off the lectern and landed underneath the table. I slotted in one of my standard jokes. While the audience were laughing I bent down and retrieved my speech. Fortunately Wyn was in the habit of punching a hole in the pages and keeping them together with a tag. I carried on as though nothing had happened. After the dinner was over I was speaking to one of the guests. I said what a terrible evening it had been. How Murphy's Law had been working overtime. He said that he had not noticed any hitches and he doubted whether anyone had either. For many Livery Company Masters the Annual Banquet with the Lord Mayor as the chief guest is the highlight of their year as Master. Some of them become very anxious in case anything goes wrong. When I was Lord Mayor and the Master at a Livery Banquet seemed to be particularly nervous I would relate these happenings to him. The fact that I had had to cope with such incidents seemed to help him overcome his nervousness. One Masters' wife after listening as I told the stories of my disasters to her husband said in a voice of disbelief, "And they still let you be Lord Mayor after all that."

When I think of all the successful events for which Stephen and I were responsible, it seems a little unfair that one of our few “disasters” should be immortalised in this way. However, it’s a good story which we have both also related on occasions.

It was usual at the Annual Dinner for Past Masters usually held in November, for the Beadle to put out a display of Company silver and one year, the Beadle placed the Company Sword on the mantelpiece so positioned that the emblems on the scabbard could be seen. Frank so liked the way the sword was displayed he offered to present a sword stand so it could always be displayed in this way. This was subsequently made in Malaysian hardwood and, at the Company’s expense, solid silver panels were added on which are recorded the names of all the Masters of the Company. It just so happens that the names of all 24 Masters covered by this history just fit onto panels on the front of the stand.



*The Sword Stand
(The silver panels on
the front now record
the names of the first
twenty four
Masters)*

The year was coming to an end but the Senior Warden’s health was giving some cause for concern as Sir Ronald Ellis was suffering from high blood and, on doctor’s advice had to withdraw. Fortunately, Trevor Crocker who had served two terms as Senior Warden 1985-86 and 1986-87 was still a member of the Court and was qualified to be nominated as Master. Therefore at the Election Court held as usual at the City of London Club, Trevor was elected Master and the normal progression of Wardens was able to continue.



*A Company Treasure
A limited edition “Coalport Christmas Tray”
produced in 1983 and presented to the Company to
mark its formation*

Chapter 8 1991 – 1992

Master: Mr. Trevor J C Crocker
Wardens: Mr. J V Bartlett CBE FREng, Mr. G Clerehugh OBE FREng
& Rear Admiral J S Grove CB OBE



Trevor Crocker was another Founder Member who had played a significant part in the Company's formation. In earlier chapters I have already explained, how firstly ill health and then the Mastership of The Worshipful Company of Glaziers prevented him being Master in both 1986 and 1987. Despite his obvious disappointment he remained a full and active member of the Court and it was only a question of time before he became Master. Later during his year, he admitted to me that it would have been impossible to have served as Master of two Companies at the same time. *"It would probably have killed me,"* was his comment. Having been Master Glazier, Trevor felt the Engineers' should, like his mother Company, almost take the Master's word as law and initially he found it hard to accept he had to openly discuss matters with the Court and particularly the Past Masters. Let us just say Master and Clerk had some very frank discussions but always over an excellent lunch at his club, The East India Club.

The Installation Dinner was held on 23rd April 1991 at Barber Surgeons' Hall. This was the first time was had used this Hall and with slightly higher than usual numbers, I had difficulties fitting everyone in. In the end the Royal Engineers Light Orchestra had to be sited in the entrance hall with the doors to the Livery Hall left open. The principal guests were the Rt. Reverend Leonard Ashton, former Chaplain-in-Chief RAF and Professor Sir Alan Harris CBE FREng.

We continued to expand our relationships with the technical branches of the Armed Forces with a Livery visit to the Corps of Royal Signals at Blandford on 13th and 14th June 1991. Trevor's former company had played a major part in the design and building of the Officers' Mess at Blandford Camp so the visit had the dual purpose of not only learning more about the Signals but also see building with which the Master had been associated.

On 15th July, there was a visit to Sizewell Nuclear Power Station. I had still retained some contacts with the nuclear industry and we were, at short notice, offered a private Livery visit to see the pressure vessel and heat exchanges before they disappeared under feet of concrete. I very much regretted that Institute of Metals business in the Far East stopped me for being part of a most informative and successful visit.

I had been suffering for some years with increasing back problems and these were exacerbated during my Far East travels particularly when Mary and I had to evacuate our hotel room in New Zealand and run down 10 flights of concrete steps in the middle of the night. The Master was also a member of the Fanmakers' Company, so the Ladies Luncheon on 19th September 1991 was held in Fanmakers' Hall. At that time the Hall was part of St Botolph's church in Bishopgate where they housed the magnificent collection of fans which were very much appreciated by the ladies. This was yet another Ladies Lunch for which Stephen had responsibility as I was now confined to home with my back problems.

The organisation of Annual Banquets was now well established and I was able, with Stephen's assistance to work from home. Trevor assisted on having a trial meal, something for which I rarely had the time and so had never done. Through this Master's year we invariably had lamb for the main course and I duly passed on the Master's comments to the caterers after the trial. The Banquet was then held on 4th October 1991 at Plaisterers' Hall with the Lord Mayor Sir Alexander Graham and the Master of Signals, Major General A C

Birtwhistle CB CBE at the time I was being prepared for a major operation on my back. This is the only Banquet I have missed so I was horrified to read the minutes of the Court Meeting held shortly after the Banquet and find the caterers had ignored my comments on the lamb. No names but we never used those caterers again.

For some time, the Court had been considering proposals to hold at least one social event each year outside the City and on the initiative of Liveryman John Evans a Dinner was held at Aston University in Birmingham on the 11th October. As Court Assistant, Sir Frederick Crawford was Vice Chancellor of the University this was a very appropriate location and this event was the forerunner of the Out of Town Meetings which were to form such a major part of the annual programme in future years.

On 25th October, the Company paid a visit to the Historic Dockyard at Chatham. Lieutenant General Sir Stuart Pringle, who was seriously injured in an IRA bomb explosion in London whilst Commandant General Royal Marines, had in retirement taken on the job of converting the old naval dockyard at Chatham into a major visitor attraction. With one of the largest collection of listed buildings at a single location this was no mean task and to help publicise the ongoing work, all the Clerks with naval or marine connections were invited for a day visit in 1990. Subsequently Mary and I were invited to the opening of the "Wooden Walls" exhibition which graphically describes the building of HMS Valiant in the late 1700's. I was much impressed with everything I saw and the company visit in 1991 was a direct consequence. I'm told it was a most enjoyable and informative day out but I was still recovering at home.

From our formation we had forged excellent links with the Army initially with the Royal Engineers and later with the Royal Signals and the REME. We had also established links with the Royal Navy but not really with the Royal Air Force. To try and remedy this, Liveryman Air Marshal Sir Geoffrey Ford, arranged for a visit to Royal Air Force St. Athan, one of the major maintenance bases within the RAF on the 13th and 14th November. Although another visit I had to miss, all the reports were of a fascinating couple of days which achieved the objective of establishing contacts within the Air Force.

On the 20th November, the Warden's Lecture Dinner heard the City Engineer, Liveryman Len Groome, talk about the History of London Bridge. Although Len had many engineering responsibilities throughout the City, the three bridges owned and maintained by the City, Tower Bridge, London Bridge and Blackfriars Bridge, were particular interests and he certainly demonstrated his enthusiasm for them.



The Annual carol Service at St. Katherine Cree on 18th December 1991 brought a very hectic year to a close. 1992 started with the Ladies Livery Dinner on 6th February at Clothworkers' Hall when the principal guests were Sir Robert Honeycombe FRS FREng, Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company and Treasurer of The Royal Society and the Director General of REME, Major General Mike Heath CBE. During the dinner, to mark the association between the Company and the REME, General Heath presented to the Master a set of three goblets engraved with the REME and Company crests to be used by the Master at all formal dinners.



On 12th February 1992, Sir Graham Day, Chairman of Rover Group delivered the 3rd Bridge Lecture entitled "Engineers and other Selected Professionals" at the City University. The Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Brian Jenkins presided as Chancellor the City University.

The Election Court Dinner and Service were held on 3rd March 1992 when John Bartlett was elected Master with Wardens, Gerry Clerehugh, John Grove and Sir Frederick Crawford. At the dinner Court Assistant Len Weaver presented a silver salver to the Company to mark the merger of the Institution of Manufacturing Engineers, of which he was the last President, to the Institution of Electrical Engineers. The final event of the year was a visit, on 3rd April 1992, to HMS SULTAN, the Royal Naval School of Marine Engineering at Gosport. The visit was followed by dinner on board HMS WARRIOR in Portsmouth Dockyard.



Silver Salver presented by The Institution of Manufacturing Engineers in 1991

Chapter 9 1992 – 1993

Master: Mr. John V Bartlett CBE FREng
Wardens: Mr. G Clerehugh OBE FREng, Rear Admiral J S Grove CB OBE
& Professor Sir Frederick Crawford FREng



John Bartlett was one of the earliest members of the Company and he recalls his year *“From the Master’s point of view, the greatest good fortune of my year was that it coincided with the Lord Mayoralty of Past Master Alderman Sir Francis McWilliams. It followed that privileged invitations to the Guildhall and elsewhere were frequent, and all city doors were open to us yea even unto the closet of the Lady Mayoress in St. Pauls. Add to that the ubiquitous influence of our Founder Master and it will be understood that we were well placed to display our wares in the City. It was decided to contribute a float in the Lord Mayor’s Show. The Institution of Civil Engineers (of which I was a Past President and The Lord Mayor a Fellow) presented a handsome silver rose bowl to the Company”.*

“At the end of the ninth year of its existence, the Company felt confident that it had established a good reputation with the Corporation and the Livery Companies, not least because of its punctilious observance of the City’s traditions and customs. If some of the glamour of novelty was wearing off, in its place was the solid determination to create a well endowed Company of Engineers, a permanent part of the City hierarchy”.

“Perhaps the most pleasant memory of the Master’s year was the appreciative gasp from HRH The Princess Royal (then Master of the Loriners’ Company) when she first saw the silver model of the Ironbridge being presented to The Lord Mayor”.

The Master and Wardens were installed at the Installation Court Meeting held at Butchers’ Hall on 28th April 1992. On 13th May, the Master and I, along with the Masters and Clerks of 50 other Livery Companies attended a Reception given by St. John’s Ambulance at St. John’s Gate hosted by HRH The Duke of Gloucester. As the Master was a distinguished civil engineer with an interest in tunnelling it was, perhaps, obvious that a visit to the Channel Tunnel would be part of his programme. However despite all our efforts, we weren’t able to get permission to go underground so had to make do with presentations and visits to some of the surface workings which still made for a fascinating and informative visit.



With the Mansion House still closed, our Annual Banquet on 2nd October was again held at Plaisterers’ Hall with Liveryman Robin Wilson CBE FREng, President of the Institution of Civil Engineers as one of the principal guests. During dinner, the Master, a Past President of the Civil Engineers, received on behalf of the Company, a silver bowl from the Institution to mark his election as Master.



A few days later, the Master and I returned to Plaisterers' Hall to attend the Presentation Dinner for the Lord Mayor-elect, Past Master Alderman Sir Francis McWilliams GBE FREng. This is an event which receives very little publicity and is largely unknown unless you have a new Lord Mayor in your Livery. A few days after his election at Common Hall in Guildhall, the Lord Mayor-elect is presented to the Lord Chancellor at the House of Lords and receives from the Lord Chancellor, the approval of HM The Queen to his election. Shortly afterwards, Buckingham Palace announced that The Queen had been pleased to confer the honour of a GBE (Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire) on the Lord Mayor-elect. To mark the presentation, the Lord Mayor-elect's Livery Companies (in this case, the Plaisterers', Loriners', Arbitrators' and Engineers' Companies) arrange a dinner in his honour attended by the Lord Chancellor, The Queen's Private Secretary, the Court of Alderman, High Officers of the City and the Masters and Clerks of the companies involved. It really was a fascinating evening and a great pleasure to see our Past Master and his Lady now titled Alderman Sir Francis and Lady McWilliams. After the dinner the Lord Mayor-elect does not appear again at any City function, with one exception, until he takes office at the Silent Ceremony on the Friday before Lord Mayor's Day. The exception is the "Lighting Up Dinner" held in Guildhall as a rehearsal for the forthcoming Lord Mayor's Banquet. Tradition has it that many years ago, a candle fell during the Banquet and nearly set fire to the Lady Mayoress. Ever since then there has been a dinner to 'adjust the lighting' which is, of course, now all electric but the tradition continues. At this year's 'Lighting-Up Dinner' the Lord Mayor-elect asked Stephen, our Beadle to act as the Toastmaster during the evening; a rare privilege for the Beadle of a young company.

The Smeatonian Society, consisting of eminent civil engineers, is the oldest engineering society in the world and at this time its President was our Master, John Bartlett. John had invited a number of members of the Company including the Lord Mayor-elect to a Society Dinner in October at the Institution of Civil Engineers. During dinner, an urgent message came for Sir Francis from the Mansion House and he immediately left the dinner. It was only later we heard that Lady (Wyn) McWilliams had been knocked down in Oxford Street and was seriously ill in hospital. Fortunately, there was better news over the next few days and, although recovery was slow, Wyn was able to be alongside Frank as Lady Mayoress from the start of his mayoralty. Few realised how much gallantry was required.

When Frank had been Sheriff, we had discovered the ceremony, before the Lord Mayor's Show, when Livery Companies and other City institutions with direct connections to the Lord and the Sheriffs make presentations to them. In the past, these had tended to be illuminated scrolls, but more recently the practice had grown up of presenting gifts to the Lord Mayor. My first thought had been a 2/3rd or 1/2 size copy of our Company sword. I knew Frank, as a Dato of Malaysia, already had a ceremonial sword so I thought ours would make a pair. However, discussions with Wilkinson's Sword indicated a smaller version would cost as much or even more than the original and was really beyond our means.



My second thought was a model of the Ironbridge in Shropshire as it forms a major part of our crest and Coat of Arms. Discussions with our silversmith indicated that a scale model in silver mounted on a wooden base with the other part of our crest, a 16 pointed sun, in silver gilt under the bridge could be produced for a manageable price. In the end the entire cost was raised through donations from Liverymen. Earlier in the year when visiting HMS SULTAN, the Founder Master queried why our silversmith had asked the Ironbridge Gorge Museum for detailed plans of the bridge. When I told him what was planned, he suggested the Company should also have an exact copy and as there was money in the silver fund, two bridges were ordered. For a short time, I was able to display both bridges in my office.

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On the day of the Lord Mayor's Show, the Master, Wardens, Beadle and I assembled in the Crypt of Guildhall for the presentations. I had suggested to Stephen the Beadle he should have a temporary cover over the bridge so no-one saw it prior to the presentation. As the junior of Frank's Livery Companies we were the last to make a presentation but finally the Remembrance intoned "The Master and Wardens of The Worshipful Company of Engineers to make a presentation to The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor". As we stepped forward the Beadle unveiled the bridge and a gasp went up from the assembled company. HRH The Princess Royal, as Master of the Loriners' Company (Frank's mother company), was in the front row and we were all conscious of this voice behind us saying "what is it? I can't see". Whilst the Master read out the citation, which went with the bridge, I could see The Lord Mayor trying to look at the Master whilst also taking sideways glances towards Stephen. It was a truly memorable occasion particularly as we were then able to join the Lord Mayor and Court of Alderman for refreshments in the other part of the crypt before the carriage processions formed up.

One foot note to the ceremony. For a short time the gifts were on display and the Founder Master was able to see the bridge for the first time. I confirmed we had ordered a second bridge which was identical except for the engraving which on the Company bridge read "Replica of Presentation to The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor, Sir Francis McWilliams GBE FREng, on Lord Mayors Day 14th November 1992". Sir Peter didn't like the use of the word replica which he thought sounded inappropriate but he later withdrew his objection when I showed him the dictionary definition of replica as 'exact copy of article made by original craftsman'. Since that date, at least 4 other bridges have been commissioned mostly for people connected with the Ironbridge Museum but none of the others have the sixteen pointed sun on the base.

The other feature of the 1992 Lord Mayor's Show was the Engineers' Company float. This was based on an Archimedean screw which, as it turned, showed details of engineering achievements. The Company was very fortunate that Middle Warden, Rear Admiral John Grove, a Director of Devonport Dockyard Management Ltd, had persuaded DML to construct the float and to provide a low loader and driver. Without this very generous donation we almost certainly would not have been able to participate. Our theme for the show was "Engineering – The life blood of the nation" and this was displayed not only on the float but also on the back of the sweatshirts provided for the young engineers who accompanied the float. Members of the Company and their partners watched the procession from stands on the embankment after which the Wardens, Clerk, Beadle and their ladies went to the Savoy for a late lunch. The Master was, in the meantime, waiting with a select group of Masters, all in their Tudor bonnets, awaiting the return of The Lord Mayor at Guildhall after which John and Gill Bartlett were entertained to lunch by the Lord Mayor.



A few days later, on 18th November, the Middle Warden Rear Admiral John Grove, spoke at the Wardens Lecture Dinner on "The Trident Project" with which he had been closely associated before his retirement from the Royal Navy, and the year concluded with the traditional Carol Service at St. Katherine Cree. At the start of 1992, the Ladies Livery Dinner was, once again, held in Clothworkers' Hall.

All Lord Mayors support a number of charities during their year in office and Frank choose the newly created "Foundation for Manufacturing and Industry" and RedR (The Register of Engineers for Disaster Relief" the later being one

which the Engineers' Company already supported. We therefore did everything possible to support events in aid of these charities and the first of these was a Malaysian Evening in the Guildhall in March 2003. This event was supported by a consortium of firms constructing the new Kuala Lumpur airport who flew in cooks for Malaysian food, musicians and dancers and hundreds of orchids to decorate Guildhall. The



The Lord Mayor, Sir Francis McWilliams, waves to the crowd at the Lord Mayor's Show on 14 November 1992.

table of engineers had a fabulous evening particularly as it saw the Lord Mayor's charitable appeal off to such a good start.

All too quickly John Bartlett's year was coming to a close and at the beginning of March, Gerry Clerehugh was elected as Master for the year ensuing with Wardens, Rear Admiral John Grove, Sir Frederick Crawford and Lawrence Turner. As this was to be the 10th Anniversary of the Grant of Livery, Gerry and his Wardens had been more involved than usual in planning the forthcoming celebrations.



Two "Master Engineers"

The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor Alderman Sir Francis McWilliams GBE FREng and the Founder Master and former Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Peter Gadsden GBE AC FREng at Guildhall prior to a meeting of the Court of Aldermen.



"The Bartlett Claret Jugs"
Presented by John Bartlett in 1994

Chapter 10 1993 – 1994

Master Mr. G Clerehugh OBE FREng
Wardens: Rear Admiral J S Grove CB OBE, Professor Sir Frederick Crawford FREng
& Mr. L F Turner OBE



The New Master and Wardens were installed on April 1993 at Stationers' Hall and it had by now become the practice to present most of our awards at this event.

The Master recalls: I had two pieces of good fortune for my year of office: the tenth anniversary of the formation of the Livery and Past Master Sir Francis McWilliams as the incumbent Lord Mayor for most of time. These two came together at the Annual Banquet, which was held at Guildhall to mark the special occasion. The principal guests were Sir Frank as Lord Mayor, HRH The Duke of Kent and The Chief Engineer of the RAF, Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Alcock. The Lord Mayor graciously allowed us to use his Guildhall (at a price) and lent us the Corporation Gold Plate, Sir Michael gave us the ceremonial trumpeters of the RAF and we even served Mc Williams wine. It was a magnificent occasion.

One of the Master's early engagements was to make the first visit to the Royal Air Force College at Cranwell. Links with the RAF were still not as strong as with the other Services so this visit was seen as an essential step in involving the Air Force more in Company affairs. The Master and I were accompanied by the Immediate Past Master, John Bartlett and we had a fascinating day with presentations on the work of the College and the opportunity to meet both staff and students. The Master was delighted when he saw a broken bit of a Buccaneer aircraft which he had actually helped to design. That evening we stayed at "The Lodge" as guests of the Commandant where the other guest was the Chief Engineer Royal Air Force, Air Marshal Sir Michael Alcock. We later attended a Mess Dinner in the College.



The 10th Anniversary was celebrated in two parts. In early July we had a special Livery Weekend at Ironbridge to mark the 10th Anniversary of the formation of The Company of Engineers. This included a Celebration Dinner at the Post House in Telford with a talk on the work of the Ironbridge Gorge Museum given by David d'Haan. Sir Peter and Lady Gadsden had recently brought a property near Bridgnorth and the Master and I with Joan and Mary were invited to stay for the weekend. This was most enjoyable but it did mean we had a number of rather quick journeys between Ironbridge and Bridgnorth as we prepared for the different events.

Because of Service commitments, it wasn't always possible for Award Winners to attend the April dinner in person. Usually there was someone representing the award winner to accept the medal and certificate on their behalf which happen this year with the Royal Navy Award for a Non Commissioned Officer.

However, the Commanding Officer of HMS DEVONSHIRE, in which the award winner was serving, invited the Master and I and our Ladies to visit the ship in Devonport Dockyard. This provided an excellent opportunity to meet the award winner and to see at first hand the work he was doing. After a representation of the award, we were all entertained to lunch by the Captain. I know the Master thoroughly enjoyed this visit and it was, of course, for me particularly nice to be back amongst the Navy.

The second part of the Anniversary celebrations was the Banquet in Guildhall to mark the 10th Anniversary of the Grant of Livery to which the Master has already referred. This was to be a very special event in the Company's history and with an expected attendance of around 500, a lot of planning was required. Sometime earlier, Mary and I had been in Australia visiting branches of the Institute of Materials and we were invited by the Plastics Group in Melbourne to a wine tasting at an Italian Restaurant. A most enjoyable evening but our interest was in the wines which came from McWilliams Winery. They were very good and it seemed obvious we should use them for the Banquet as the Lord Mayor was a McWilliams. On return to England I contacted the Australian Wine Centre in the Strand and the sole importer of McWilliams Wines was in Perth, Scotland. They very kindly sent down 12 wines to sample, 6 white, 4 red, a sparkling wine and a liquor muscat. Time was getting short and a wine tasting was essential but the Master's diary was very full. We were, however, due to attend a Service in St. Katherine Cree for the rededication of the Rose Window by the Bishop of Fulham. The Company had had a long association with St. Katherine Cree and we tended to be invited to all their major events. The Rose Window had been extensively damaged by the St. Mary Axe bomb two years earlier and had now been restored. As the Master recalls *"the consecration of the replaced rose window at St Katherine Cree was a particular highlight with the Bishop of Fulham scattering Holy Water with a kitchen mop. By a special arrangement with the Church's insurance company, the altar was adorned with a magnificent array of Charles II silver but you could see the horror on the faces of the Clergy as 'holy water' rained down on the priceless collection.*

The Bishop seemed to be somewhat in a hurry throughout the Service but appeared more relaxed as we all meet in the Church garden for Pimms and canapés. But it was soon back to business in my office with the wines laid before us. The sparkling wine was soon discarded but 2 whites and two reds were definite possibilities together with the liquor muscat. The Master took the first choices home with him and I took the second choice and a few days later we agreed on the ones for the Banquet. As Clerk you get to know many of the City Caterers and I had decided to ask Robin Easton formerly of the Mansion House and then working for Graisons to undertake the catering. With only six weeks to go, Robin asked to see me urgently in my office to inform me Graisons were no longer going to do City events and hence I had no-one for Guildhall. I knew John Coombe of Payne & Gunter was very keen to do the Banquet and I managed to get him to agree to do the event on the same terms as Graisons and in particular no corkage for our wines. I was normally against 'trial dinners' but this seemed too important an event for anything to go wrong and so the Master and I with Mary and Joan travelled into Middlesex to sample the menu. In general it was all superb but the colour balance of the main course left something to be desired so cauliflower went out and carrots came in. The sweet, although delicious, didn't quite look the part and so was replaced. On the night, it all worked extremely well and the extra work involved paid dividends. We also produced a special 10th Anniversary Commemorative Plate in a limited edition of 100.



10th Anniversary Plate
with back stamp



As the 1st October approached, I think we were all getting very nervous. At the request of his Private Secretary, a draft speech had been sent to the Duke of Kent and detailed programmes had been sent to all the major participants. Once the seating plan had gone to print, we just had to sit back and hope it all came together on the night. The celebratory pamphlet to mark the occasion became the standard handout at Clothing ceremonies for a good few years. Before the processions into dinner, a photograph was taken of all the Past Masters which included The Lord Mayor with the Master. This was to be the last occasion on which all the first 10 Masters were together as sadly Trevor Crocker died a few months later.



Master Engineers' All: (from left to right)

Mr. John Bartlett, Mr. Trevor Crocker, Sir William Barlow, Sir Denis Rooke, Alderman Sir Peter Gadsden, The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Francis McWilliams, The Master, Mr. Gerald Clerehugh, Mr. Robert Dunn, Rear Admiral Peter Hammersley and Mr. Tony Lee



!0th Anniversary Dinner

The Master & Mrs. Joan Clerehugh with HRH The Duke of Kent and The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Alderman Sir Francis McWilliams and Lady McWilliams

After the excitement of the Banquet, it was back to normal as the Master explains" *The Annual Carol Service was held at St Katherine Cree and Chaplain Hugh Rom persuaded Joan to read a poem. The after service 'bun fight' was still held at the back of the church. In February, the Bridge Lecture was given by Sir Howard*

Davies of the CBI- certainly a prestigious lecture. Although there had been a number of events held out of London, these has always been restricted to one day, so fifty or so Liverymen and their wives set a precedent by making a longer 'out-of-town visit. It was to the North East to visit the British Gas Engineering Research Station at Killingworth and

the associated explosion test site at Spadeadam. The culture was provided by the nearby Roman Wall and its forts. The visit literally went with a very loud bang. The party stayed at the George Hotel at Chollerford, where two convivial dinners were held. Another new event which turned into an annual one was the lunch held at Kew Gardens at which Joan as outgoing Master's Lady handed over the Hammersley Brooch to Betty Groves as incoming Lady.



Following the marvellous Banquet, it gave me huge pleasure to know that my farewell gift to the Livery of three matched goblets would be known as the Duke of Kent's goblets. It was my intention they should be used by the principal guest even though they were always seemingly appropriated by the Clerk! The year for me was superb with tremendous support from the Livery and especially the Clerk.

The Duke of Kent Goblets

In October, the Mansion House re-opened after the major refurbishment which had cost £14million and The Lord Mayor was able to move back in for the final month of his mayoralty. To provide an opportunity for members of the Livery to see the results of the refurbishment, Frank McWilliams arranged for dinners on three consecutive evenings and the Engineers' Company were allocated seats on the first of these. It was a truly memorable occasion particularly when The Lord Mayor started his speech with the words "Welcome home".



The Bridge Lecture given by Mr Howard Davies, Director General of the CBI was in February at the City University with the University Chancellor, The Lord Mayor, Alderman Paul Newall in the chair. The Election Court Meeting and Dinner was held, as usual, at The City of London Club on it's now traditional date of the first Tuesday in March when Rear Admiral John Grove CB OBE was elected Master and Dr. James Smith joined the officers as the new Junior Warden. During this evening, John Bartlett, the Immediate Past Master presented a pair of silver topped cut glass claret jugs to the Company as his Master's gift. I was still very

heavily involved with the Institute of Materials and as soon as the Election Court Dinner was over, Mary and I departed for six weeks visiting overseas branches in Singapore, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand and America. I don't think John Grove could believe it when I told him I wouldn't be back until two days before the Installation Court. I had great faith in Stephen the Beadle and I knew he would cope very well with finalising menus, seating plans and the medals and certificates for the award winners. I returned to find everything very well organised although I don't know who suffered the most in my absence, the Master-elect or the Beadle who seemed to have a visit from the Master-elect almost every day!

The Master has already referred to the passing of the Ladies Brooch by Joan to Betty Grove at a special luncheon at Kew Gardens. Prior to this, the out-going Master used to slide the Master's Ladies Brooch, without ceremony, across the Court table to his successor. Joan Clerehugh felt there should be a more formal transfer so she arranged a luncheon for all the Past Master and Officers Ladies on the day following the Installation Dinner. This has since become an annual event which allows the new Master's Lady to thank the out-going 'Mistress Engineer' for all her contributions during the year. At this time, the Past Masters Dinner and this new Brooch Lunch were paid for by the Master and this was to continue until 2002 when a new system of Fines for the Wardens and the Master were introduced to fund these events.

Chapter 11 1994 – 1995

Master Rear Admiral John S Grove CB OBE
Wardens: Professor Sir Frederick Crawford FREng, Mr. L F Turner OBE
& Dr. James Smith CBE FREng FRSE



As we moved into our second decade, the new Master felt it was time to take stock in his own words *“Following the success of our 10th Anniversary Celebrations during the previous year, I felt it was time for the Company to take stock and plan a strategy for the year ahead. In particular, the number of Liverymen was showing a slow but steady rate of attrition mainly due to the rather high average age of the Livery. A small working party chaired by Assistant Len Weaver produced a clear concise and forthright report which considered the age profile of the Livery, the current membership levels and the financial aspects of membership. The main recommendation to form a separate Membership Committee under the Chairmanship of the Middle Warden was accepted and Standing Orders were amended at the January 1995 Court Meeting to accomplish these changes. It is now clear the positive action taken during my year ensured the long term stability of the membership. Again after nearly 10 years in existence, our Charitable Trust Fund needed to attract new funds and I was pleased that my initiatives led to more aggressive marketing of the fund particularly to new members and a steady increase in new covenants.*

The Installation Dinner was held in Ironmongers’ Hall with Sir John Meurig Thomas as the principal guest. As explained at the end of the previous chapter, I had just returned from an overseas business trip and was quietly priding myself on how well the Beadle had organised everything when, of course, something went wrong. The meal finished ‘on time’ but then I didn’t particularly notice the principal guest leaving the table. The Loving Cups were all in place and we were ready for the traditional sung Grace but the Beadle remained standing behind the Master and nothing happened. Increasingly frantic signals between Clerk and Beadle produced no result and I was eventually forced to indicate to the Beadle that I wished a word. It appeared the principal guest was still away from the table and the Master was refusing to allow the Beadle to continue. My message to the Master, relayed by the Beadle, was terse but still nothing happened. Eventually after a delay of over 10 minutes, Sir John reappeared having had to take an urgent phone call and we then continued. However it was a full programme with many of the Company awards being presented that evening so we never made up the lost time with the unfortunate consequence that Members needing to catch trains had to leave during the last but main speech. In the subsequent wash-up, the Master accepted that in future, the Clerk and the Beadle would have the main responsibility for time-keeping at all major events. For many years, I used this as an example to new Masters when explaining they must trust the Beadle and Clerk’s judgement when events are in progress as often they are the only ones in full possession of all the facts.

In many ways, John Grove was the most demanding of all the Masters with whom I served. His favourite expression was *“Time spent on reconnaissance is never wasted”*. An excellent sentiment but it can drive a Clerk to distraction if carried too far particularly as I was finding it more and more difficult to juggle an increasingly demanding full-time position at The Institute of Materials with the constantly expanding role of the Clerk. Increasing demands on my staff at the Institute led to the Institute requesting a relatively large annual sum if the Company was to continue to use 1 Carlton House Terrace as its office address. Knowing I was to retire from the Institute in 2 years time, the Company agreed I should move the Engineers’ Office to my home although the Company still continued to use the Institute for meetings and also its printing and

post room facilities for which we, of course, paid the going rate. Despite these difficulties, I thoroughly enjoyed working with John as Master.



Engineers' Company exhibit at the Guildhall Livery Exhibition 1994

This was another year which saw a number of notable events. In July 1994, the 2nd Livery Exhibition was held in Guildhall and the Company was fortunate in having the support of Rolls Royce in mounting our exhibit based on a scale model of the Tyne gas turbine. Rolls Royce also generously undertook the design of the stand and also provided explanatory literature. The Master and I, together with other Liverymen, took turns to man the stand over the three days of the exhibition during which we were able to meet many interesting people. The Master also had the pleasure of showing HRH The Princess Royal around our exhibit.

On 8th September 1994 there was a joint visit to Tower Bridge with the Chartered Architects', Constructors' and Plaisters' Companies. A new exhibition showing the building of the bridge and how it worked had recently been opened and our guide was former City Engineer, Liveryman Len Groome who was now also Clerk to the Chartered Architect's Company. Then on 7th October 1994 we returned to the Mansion House for our first Annual Banquet since refurbishment. The principal guests were Admiral of the Fleet Sir Julian Oswald, and Professor Sir Arnold Wolfendale FRS, the Astronomer Royal. When I first became Clerk, you could only dine in the Mansion House if The Lord Mayor or a Lord Mayor Locum Tenens was present but this had now changed and we were fortunate still to be able to use Mansion House even though the Lord Mayor was, on this occasion, overseas.

1994 ended with the two usual events in our programme, the Wardens Lecture Dinner on 23rd November when the Middle Warden, Lawrence Turner talked about the formation of his company Static Systems Group plc and then on 20th December 1994 our Annual Carol Service at St. Katherine Cree which turned out to be the last time the Service was held in this Church, although more of that later.

Our first event in 1995 was the Ladies Livery Dinner on 25th January 1995 at Clothworkers' Hall which took the form of a Burns Night Dinner at which the guests were The Rt. Hon. The Lord Ross QC and Sir James Hamilton KCB MBE FREng. The Master said the Selkirk Grace and the haggis was piped in the traditional way with the Master, in his best Scottish accent, intoning Robbie Burns immortal words. Many wore Highland dress and the Beadle looked particularly dashing which was more than could be said for the Clerk. An expanding waistline made getting into my kilt, which I hadn't worn for some years, difficult and having seen the photographs, I haven't worn it since. The Master, as a Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, organised a Visit to Westminster Abbey on 14th February for a tour which included the Bath Chapel and this was preceded by a buffet supper at The Institution of Civil Engineers.

On 7th March 1995, the Election Court and Dinner was held, as usual, at City of London Club but this year there was an added twist. During 1994, the Senior Warden Sir Frederick Crawford had raised with the officers and Past Masters, the possibility of deferring his year as Master by one year as he was due to become High Sheriff of the West Midlands in April 1995. As the Middle Warden, Lawrence Turner, was qualified for Master and was agreeable to coming into office a year early, the Election Court duly elected Lawrence as Master whilst Sir Fred was elected for a second year as Senior Warden. The results of the Election Court are announced by the Clerk with some ceremony at the Election Court Dinner and there was a slight gasp from Liverymen present when the name of the new Master was not quite as expected.



The Faraday Cup

During this year and for the first time in the Company's history, The Master and all the Wardens were Fellows of the same engineering institution, The Institution of Electrical Engineers. To mark this unique event, the Master with contributions from his Wardens presented to the Company a new Loving Cup made to the Company's design to be known as 'The Faraday Cup'.

The idea of an Out-of-Town Meeting was now becoming firmly established in the annual programme and on 17th March 1995 there was an all day visit to HMS COLLINGWOOD, the Royal Naval Electrical Engineering School at Fareham in Hampshire whilst the Ladies visited the Roman Palace at Fishbourne. The day concluded with a Livery Dinner onboard HMS WARRIOR in Portsmouth Dockyard. And so another very successful and hectic year came to a close. The day after the Installation Dinner, Betty Grove hosted the 'Brooch' lunch in the House of Lords so ensuring this was now definitely an annual event.

Chapter 12 1995 -1996

Master: Mr. Lawrence Turner OBE

Wardens: Professor Sir Frederick Crawford FREng, Dr. James Smith CBE FREng FRSE
& Dr. David Mitchell CBE



As already mentioned and as Lawrence Turner recalls:

My year as Master commenced rather earlier than I had anticipated, as the Senior Warden, Sir Frederick Crawford had been nominated as High Sheriff of the West Midlands. The Court agreed therefore that Sir Frederick should serve a further year as Senior Warden, and I was elected to take office as Master on the 25th April 1995 – a year earlier than had been planned – at the Vintners Hall with the Chief Royal Engineer, General Sir John Stibbon as the principal guest..

The new Junior Warden was Dr. David Mitchell who, in terms of service on the Court, was relatively junior. However some years earlier the Court had agreed no one could be installed as Master after their 70th birthday. Because so many of the UK's senior engineers had joined the Company, the average age of the Court was relatively high so the Master, advised, by the Past Masters, had to arrive at judgements of Solomon if strong candidates for Master didn't miss out on account of age.

The Master also recalls: *'The highlight of the year was the Clothing of the Duke of Kent at the Skinners Hall on the 18th July 1995, followed by Dinner accompanied by our partners. The Court Meeting was interrupted at one stage for the Police to check for explosives with a "sniffer" dog called 'Dixon'! On arrival in the Court Room, the Duke was first admitted to the Freedom by the Clerk and was then admitted by me to the Livery. The Duke was excellent company and appeared to enjoy the evening.*

On the 30th June, a visit was arranged to the Bovington Tank Museum and then on 27th September a visit to the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich for a private viewing of the 'Titanic' Exhibition. We travelled down to Greenwich by boat and whilst ashore in the Museum, the crew laid up for dinner which was enjoyed on the return cruise. On the 6th October Sir Ralph Robbins and Sir Patrick Cormack MP were our principal guests at the Annual Livery Banquet, which was also attended by the Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Christopher Walford, the Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs with their Ladies.

As Liverymen had to be Fellows of a chartered engineering institution the total number of eligible ladies on the Engineering Council Register was around 65 but at this time we only had 3 lady members. The Engineering Council agreed to forward a letter to the other eligible ladies and a Lunch was arranged at Tallow Chandlers Hall on the 20th September for the 23 potential Lady Liverymen who responded. The lunch was considered a success and was repeated some two years later after which we had 24 lady liverymen, so achieving our objective of increasing the number of Ladies in the Company.

On the 1st November, the Ladies Luncheon was held at Armourer's Hall and on the 20th November, the Junior Warden, Dr. David Mitchell gave a talk on his career in engineering and in particular his time at Rolls Royce. On the 30th November, The Beadle and I hosted an "At Home" at 1 Carlton House Terrace. We had by now accumulated a magnificent collection of silver and other artefacts, many of which were rarely seen, so Stephen and I thought it would be an excellent opportunity for members to see everything on display. It took us most of the afternoon to get everything out of the strong room and to arrange it in the Institute of Materials Council Room and Stephen did a superb job in producing labels. I believe everyone enjoyed the evening and Stephen and I had a great time explaining the history of the items on display.

As the year progressed we heard disturbing news concerning our Church, St. Katherine Cree in Leadenhall Street which was temporarily closed down by the Bishop of London following the discovery of fraud involving the then administrator. Indeed it became apparent that our previous year's Carol Service collection had not reached the intended recipient. The Master had been very keen to hold an event in the Tower of London and I made an approach to the new Resident Governor whom I had got to know when he was Engineer-in-Chief of the Army. The Governor did however advise that new charging policies meant the costs of using rooms in the Tower were prohibitive unless you could find a generous sponsor. On hearing we hadn't a Church for our Carol Service, he offered the Chapel Royal of St. Peter ad Vincula in the Tower for which he was not allowed to charge. The Chaplain, Canon Gerry Murphy, received us with open arms and approximately 140 Liverymen and their partners attended – almost double previous attendances at St. Katherine Cree. An outstandingly successful evening and this connection with the Tower of London has continued and every Carol Service has been held there since 1995.

The Ladies Livery Dinner was renamed the Winter Livery Dinner and was held at Drapers' Hall on 31st January 1996 and we were delighted to welcome as one of our principal guests the High Sheriff of the West Midlands, our own Senior Warden Professor Sir Frederick Crawford, resplendent in his official regalia. This was followed on 7th February by the 5th Bridge Lecture held at City University with the Middle Warden, Dr. James Smith, Chairman of Eastern Group as the lecturer. The evening was even more of a family occasion as the meeting was chaired by Past Master and former Chancellor of the City University, Sir Francis McWilliams. Frank had always regretted his mayoralty had not coincided with a Bridge Lecture and, when the Lord Mayor was unable to attend this year, it seemed natural to invite Frank to take the chair. The Master's year was rapidly coming to a close heralded by the Election Court Meeting on 5th March when the Senior Warden was this year elected Master and the succession resumed its proper course. Three days later, the Court made a visit to the REME at Aborfield continuing our programme of getting to better understand the technical challenges facing the Armed Forces. However the last major event of the year, the Out of Town Meeting was yet to come.

The Out-of-Town meeting had, over the last few years, gained increased prominence in the annual programme of events but this one was to prove a turning point. Lawrence Turner and his wife Jean had, many years earlier, established their own very successful business, Static Systems Group plc, the story of which had been covered by Lawrence in his Wardens Lecture. As the Out-of-Town meeting was to be based in the West Midlands there had been numerous suggestions we should include a visit to the Master's firm and this was duly arranged for the Thursday afternoon. A most enjoyable and informative visit made even more impressive by the obvious enthusiasm of Lawrence and all his team. We then all assembled at the Park House Hotel in Shifnal for an informal dinner. Our links with the Royal Air Force were growing and earlier in the year, the Master, Immediate Past Master and I had visited RAF Cosford as the guests of the Station Commander. Cosford provides technical training for all RAF Non-Commissioned Officers and other ranks so it proved an ideal location to include in the Out-of-Town programme and once again everyone was most impressed by the standard of Service training. After lunch in the Officers' Mess, there was a visit to the Aerospace Museum also based at Cosford. For those who didn't want to be involved in a technical visit, Jean Turner and Mary led a party to Shugborough Hall and we all joined up in the evening for a formal Livery Dinner at the Park House Hotel. We could not visit the West Midlands without including the Ironbridge Gorge Museum. On previous visits we hadn't been able to include the Tile Museum at Jackfield as it is on the other side of the river so this was a great opportunity for members to see this part of the Ironbridge Museum and the Saturday morning visit was over far too quickly as we had to leave to go to Harborough Hall, the home of Lawrence and Jean Turner for lunch. The Master had worried that this might be seen as a setting a precedent but I assured him not to worry as very few could seat 98 in their homes. Although 'home' visits weren't to become part of the programme, the extension of the Out-of-Town meeting over 3 days became the norm.

Although there was no compulsion, many Masters wished to give something to the Company to donate their year in office and it was usual for them to ask the Clerk for advice. However, in this case Lawrence had his own idea. The Master's Jewel is particularly attractive and had always been much admired but it didn't



travel well particularly if placed in a pocket when travelling by train or in a car and I was regularly having to have it repaired. Lawrence therefore decided to present a Master's Travelling Badge of a more robust design which the Master could have with him at all times and the main jewel would then only be used on formal occasions. Lawrence presented the new badge to the Company at the Election Court Dinner and every Master since then has benefited from this generous gift.

It was also at this time the Company designed and purchased 24 goblets for the use of Past Masters. Over the years, we had acquired an impressive range of goblets – the REME goblets for the use of the Master, the Duke of Kent Goblets for the principal guest (*or Clerk in the absence of any guests*), the pair of triennial College of Arms goblets (*presented by Assistant Ronald Campbell in 1985*) for use of other guests and the six

goblets presented by Past Master Tony Lee for use by the Officers. Masters had got so used to having special goblets they felt bereft on leaving office and many other Companies had special goblets for Past Masters. After some discussion particularly on size – the officers goblets were thought to be too small – a design was agreed which incorporated a silver-gilt sixteen pointed sun around the base.

The Muniments Committee, which oversees our treasures and artefacts, recommended the first 24 Masters would have their names and year of office inscribed on the goblets which would be for their use at all Company dinners and they would be formally presented at the start of the Installation Dinner following the Court meeting at which they left office. Thereafter Masters would use a goblet of a previous Master who had either died or was not present at a function. It was also agreed Master's Ladies would use their husbands goblet at those functions attended only by Ladies. Indeed at the Brooch Luncheon on the day after the Installation Dinner, all the Past Masters Ladies who attend are able to use their husbands' goblets.

Looking ahead the last goblet will be presented in April 2008 and in 2007, the Muniments Committee confirmed the original policy and no further Past Masters Goblets will be purchased or any additional names added to existing goblets. The goblet presented in 2007 to the 23rd Master is unique in that it not only gives the year of office but also records the years that that Master spent as Clerk to the Company.



Past Masters' Goblets



"Inscription on Goblet presented to 23rd Master"

Chapter 13 1996 – 1997

Master: Sir Frederick Crawford DL FREng

Wardens: Dr. James Smith CBE FREng FRSE, Dr. David Mitchell CBE & Mr. Richard Rooley FREng



The Installation Dinner was held on 28th April 1996 at Ironmongers Hall with the principal guest being The Hon. and Rt. Worshipful Mr. Justice Owen, Dean of the Court of Arches. The new Master was soon to retire as Vice Chancellor of Aston University at the same time completing his year as High Sheriff of the West Midlands and in this latter position had had considerable contact with the Judges. It had also been recently announced that Sir Frederick was to be the first Chairman of the newly formed Criminal Cases Review Commission so his choice of a senior Judge as our principal guest and speaker was particularly apt. In his new appointment, the Master was going to be responsible for establishing the Commission, appointing staff and overseeing the installation of new computer systems. This was to prove very time consuming but throughout his year the Master never turned down an engagement. Sometimes he would say “Do I really have to accept this invitation” and when I said “Yes” he would then do so with enthusiasm thanking me when he had had a particularly enjoyable and informative visit such as the one to the RAF College at Cranwell for an Awards Dinner preceded by a tour of the technical facilities.

At the end of May 1996, I retired from the Institute of Materials and was able to devote more time to being Clerk. For the previous 18 months it had become increasingly difficult to balance two demanding positions and the work of Clerk had had to be done in the evenings and at weekends. None of this would have been possible without the help and dedication of Stephen the Beadle who had taken on additional tasks to help me out. Fortunately, as a Fellow, I still had access to all the facilities of the Institute and we continued to hold meetings and admit Freemen at 1 Carlton House Terrace. Although still nominally a part-time Clerk, the Company now had, for the first time, a dedicated member of staff.

On the 26th July 1996 we held our Golf Day at a new venue, Little Aston Golf Club near Birmingham. This club operated a very strict segregation policy with separate entrances for ladies and gentlemen which did give some problems for the dinner in the evening when guests had to walk through the locker rooms to get to the dining room. As we had drinks on the terrace, some ladies committed the ‘crime’ of walking past the windows of the men’s bar. A beautiful course and location but many members, particularly those just attending the dinner, were not happy with the club rules.

Although there was a Court function in July, a hole had developed in the Annual Programme between the election of Sheriffs and the Election of Lord Mayor. I had therefore proposed to the Programme Committee that we should have a ‘Late Summer Outing’ in early September to open the autumn and winter programme and when this was accepted was asked to organise a suitable event near London. All Clerks are bombarded with charitable requests and one such was from the Painshill Trust near Chobham in Surrey. This Trust was asking for donations to restore an 18th century garden with a range of follies and a grotto and therefore seemed an ideal location for a visit which we undertook on 13th September 1996. An afternoon spent walking around delightful countryside with knowledgeable guides was enjoyed by everyone on the visit and a new event was now set to become a regular part of our programme.

The Annual Banquet was held in the Mansion House on 4th October 1996 with The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Sir John & Lady Chalstrey and The Rt. Hon Peter Brooke CH, Member of Parliament for the City of London as the principal guests. When it was time to call dinner, there was still no sign of Mr. Brooke but, after talking to the Master, I took the decision to go ahead anyway as we had no idea of the length of any possible delay. I did, however, go downstairs just in time to meet Mr. Brooke who had been delayed in traffic and so we processed into dinner on schedule.

The Ladies Luncheon was now well established and attended by not only our Lady members but also by the partners of male liverymen. We had started going to Livery Halls which were too small to host our major events and this year it was Watermen's' Hall on 30th October 1996 with the Clerk to the Company giving a talk on the Company of Watermen and Lightermen and its Hall after lunch. The programme then continued on traditional lines with the Wardens' Lecture Dinner 20th November 1996 when Richard Rooley spoke on 'Sick Building Syndrome' and the Carol Service at the Tower of London on 17th December.

Since our very earliest days, the Master had always consulted Past Masters concerning the suitability of Court Assistants being nominated for the office of Junior Warden and, in due course, appointment as Master. With an increasing number of Past Masters, this consultation had gradually become more formal and the practice had developed of each Master inviting all Past Masters to dinner to discuss the succession. As Clerk I attended these meetings to provide background information on Court Assistants and ultimately to implement any decisions taken. These were always fascinating meetings held each November in the Bessemer Room of the Institute of Materials at which everyone spoke very freely so it was perhaps as well that no record was taken. Because of the average age and seniority of Court Assistants and our self imposed rule that no Master could be installed after his 70th birthday, it was clear that not every Assistant could become Master and indeed some painful choices would have to be made if 'strong' candidates were to be given the chance of proceeding through the chair. The meeting and dinner is always chaired by the current Master who is the only person present who has not been to previous occasions so it was necessary to give each Master a detailed briefing on possible contentious issues. Sir Frederick took considerable time on checking dates of birth, length of service on the Court and attendances at Court and other functions. He subsequently produced a possible order of succession which was accepted by the Past Masters and although revisited every year formed the basis of future appointments of Junior Wardens up to 2004

Following the Britain-Australia Bicentennial in 1988, the Company's Charitable Trust Fund had received a significant donation to fund exchanges between British and Australian engineers. As we were not allowed to spend any of the capital, we had had to wait for the interest to build up before making a grant. The first award was to the Royal Greenwich Observatory at Cambridge to fund visits by its engineers to the Australian National Observatory and so we could understand the nature of their work and how our grant was being spent, there was a Livery Visit to the Royal Greenwich Observatory at Cambridge on 6th December 1996. The year ended with the traditional Carol Service in the Tower of London which had become so popular we reached the limit permissible in the Chapel Royal. This year, after the Service, the buffet supper was held in the engine rooms of Tower Bridge; an interesting location but rather cramped for the numbers attending and so the search was on for a new supper venue.

On 29th January 1997 the Winter Livery Dinner was held in Painter Stainers' Hall with Miss Daphne Todd President of the Royal Society of Portrait Painters, as the principal guest and on 4th March 1997 the Election Court Meeting and Dinner at the City of London Club. On 13th March 1997 there was a new event in the programme when we joined with the Scientific Instrument Makers' Company and the London Branch of the IEE to hold a Joint Lecture at the IEE headquarters in Savoy Place.

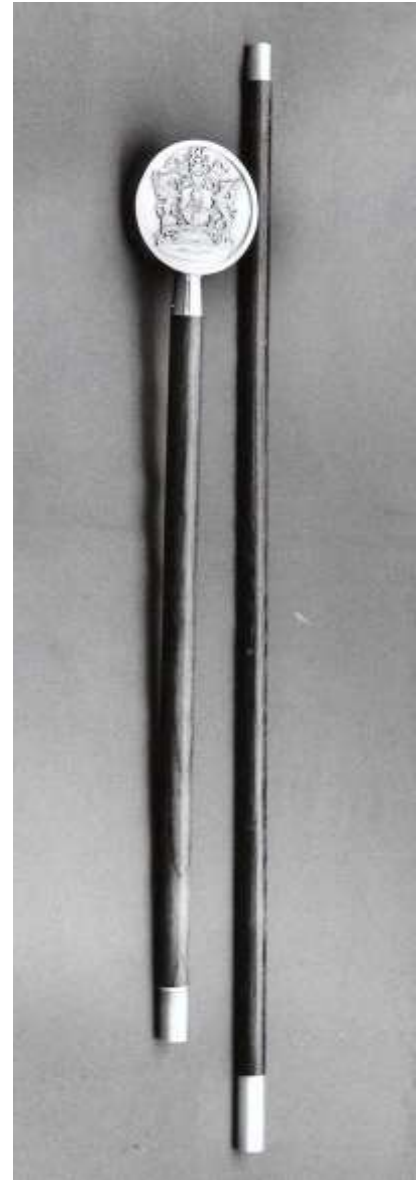
The final event of the Master's year was the Out of Town Meeting based on Wadham College Oxford on the 3rd & 4th April 1997. We all assembled for an informal dinner on the Thursday evening in the College before a visit to the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory on the Friday. The non-technical visits were to Waterperry Gardens and the Heritage Motor Centre. There was then a formal Livery Dinner in College on the Friday evening with informal visits around Oxford on the Saturday.

During his year the Master asked my advice on a possible Master's gift and I suggested a lectern for use at formal dinners. Many halls have one available and in the Mansion House, we are able to use the beautiful gold plated one but one of our own would be very welcome. After discussions with our silversmith, a design was agreed and the new lectern was presented by Sir Fred at the Election Court Dinner at which he was able to use it for the first time. Another most useful addition to our treasures.



*Left:
The Company Lectern*

*Right:
The Beadle's Staff*



A Company Treasure

A pair of silver gilt fighting cocks – not often seen as misfortunes seem to occur whenever they are displayed.

Chapter 14 1997 – 1998

Master: Dr. James C Smith CBE FREng LLD FRSE

Wardens: Dr. David Mitchell CBE, Mr. Richard Rooley FREng & Dr. Leonard Weaver CBE



The Master recalls his year:

As an electrical power engineer I am interested in the efficiency of power systems and control of the environment. My association with the N M Rothschild Bank developed an interest to encourage investment in technology and manufacture by the City Institutions. A specific interest was private investment in nuclear power stations.

I believe that an engineering education is an excellent preparation for life in present day society as well as being necessary for a professional engineering career. To limit engineers to vocational employment will deprive society of a rich source of capable young people.

The Worshipful Company of Engineers has an aim to bridge any gap between the City Institutions and the business and practice of engineering. The Bridge Lectures are the basis of striving for this aim. To contribute to that aim was a part of my interests during the Masters year.

I would highlight three items from the Company's 1997-98 programme which addressed the 'Bridge' concept:

- 1. Eastern Electricity funded the establishments of the CADZOW SMITH Award. This award aims to encourage high quality undergraduates to take a broad view of their place in society.*
- 2. On two occasions guests with finance and city interest were invited to dine with the Court. After short presentations discussion took place on the place and role of the engineer in the City and the need for City institutions to use the potential of engineers and manufacturing companies.*
- 3. The Annual Ladies Luncheon and visit was held at the London Stock Exchange.*



My year as Master gave me great optimism for the future of the Company and for our potential to make the Bridge a thoroughfare between engineering and the City. Investors in the City are interested in the returns made on their investments and the risks involved in projects. There is also interest in the social good that may result from the investment. Engineers already make major contributions to City business at senior levels in financial and manufacturing companies. The demand for high quality engineers in City institutions continues to grow demonstrating the polymath aspects of our engineering education.

Jim Smith's year started with the Installation Dinner held in Clothworkers' Hall at which the principal guest was Lord Toombs. The previous year the Institution of Mechanical Engineers had celebrated its 150th Anniversary and the members of the company who were Fellows of that institution wished to mark the occasion by contributing to a Loving Cup to the company's traditional design. The Stephenson Cup was presented to the Company at the Installation Dinner by the Institution President and Liveryman Mr. Chris Price FREng. Subsequently Chris Price joined the Court becoming Junior Warden in 2006. Such was the generosity of the

IMechE members that a significant amount remained after paying for the cost of the loving cup and this was

also donated to the Company to fund the Stephenson Award which recognises the role of teachers and lecturers in encouraging young people to study engineering. In later years, IMechE members made further contributions to ensure the continuation of this fund.

The annual programme continued along now familiar lines with the Company Golf Day and Dinner at Little Aston on 25th July 1997 followed on 16th September 1997 with the Late Summer Outing being a River Trip to the Royal Naval College at Greenwich, the Royal Observatory and the Cutty Sark and then a day at HMS SULTAN on 30th September 1997 which included a visit to HMS ARK ROYAL.



Late Summer Outing 1997

The Master, Jim Smith, with Liverymen and guests returning by river boat from the visit to Greenwich



On 17th October 1997 the Annual Banquet was held in the Mansion House with the principal guests being The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Roger Cork, and the Lord Wakeham. Through his city connections, the Master was able to arrange for the Ladies Luncheon on 29th October to be held in the private dining room of the Stock Exchange. The magnificent views from the top floor of the building made this a very special event. At the Wardens lecture Dinner in November, the Junior Warden, Dr. Len Weaver spoke on "The Romance of Steam" which reflected his own interests in the development of the great steam locomotives. Although not obvious at the time, this lecture was to be a portent for the 2001 Out-of-Town meeting.

On 16th December 1997 the Annual Carol Service was once again held in the Tower of London with an added poignancy as it was the Founder Chaplain's last Service. At the end of the Service, The Reverend Hugh Rom removed the Engineers' Preaching Scarf and having folded it, handed it to the Master to mark his retirement as Chaplain to the Company. The dinner afterwards was held in the City Conference Centre, part of the Institution of Marine Engineers building in Mark Lane. This gave us rather more room than previous locations but members and their guests were spread over three areas albeit on the same floor and within sight of each other. Still not ideal so the search for a better location for this very popular event continued.

At the January Court Meeting, the Master welcomed our new Chaplain, Founder Member The Reverend Michael West FREng and passed to him the Company's Preaching Scarf. Towards the end of 1997, HM The Queen announced that she had appointed Past Master Sir Denis Rooke to the Order of Merit, news which gave great pleasure to all members of the Company. The Master therefore agreed we should invite Sir Denis

and Lady Rooke to the Winter Livery Dinner as guests of the Company. This dinner was held 28th January 1998 at Skinners' Hall with the other principal guest being Baroness Chalker of Wallasey.

One of the privileges of being a Clerk is to accompany the Master to other Livery Company event and one highlight of Jim Smith's year was the invitation by the Merchant Taylors' Company to attend their Annual Billesdon Dinner. In 1483, The Lord Mayor Robert Billesdon determined that in order to stop the unseemly squabbling between the Skinners and Merchant Taylors Companies over their relative precedence, they would, in future, alternate between numbers 6 and 7. In addition each Company must, once a year, entertain the other to dinner. To be part of such a historical event makes for a fascinating dinner with a time-honoured ritual and set toasts of continuing friendship between the two companies.

Two years earlier the Master had been the speaker at the Bridge Lecture and he has commented on its importance at the beginning of this chapter so it was a particular pleasure for him to welcome former Lord Mayor Alderman Sir Paul Newall to deliver the 6th Bridge Lecture at City University on 11th February 1998.

The Election Court on 3rd March 1998 at the City of London Club had an added significance when we admitted Mr. Povl Ahm CBE FREng to the Livery. Following the introduction of the single European market, the City had had to change its rules and allow EU citizens to become Freemen of the City of London. Povl Ahm, as Chairman of Ove Arup, had wanted to join the Company but had been prevented by not being eligible for the Freedom of the City. With the change of rules, Povl became a Freeman of the Company and was then the first EU citizen to be granted the Freedom of the City so when he was clothed in the Livery the Engineers' Company once again made history. At the Dinner which followed, the Master announced that the Court had approved the award of Honorary Freedom of the Company to The Reverend Hugh Rom in recognition of all his services to the Company as Founder Chaplain and he presented Hugh with his certificate.

Having held the 1997 Out-of-Town Meeting in Oxford, it was perhaps predictable that the 1998 meeting would be held in Cambridge and as the Founder Master was a graduate and Honorary Fellow of Jesus College there was an obvious choice of location. And so on Thursday 2nd April 1998 we assembled for an informal dinner in the College. This was followed on the Friday by a visit to the Engineering Department of Cambridge University with which the Master had had connections during his time with Eastern Group. The non-technical visit was to the Fitzwilliam Museum. As was now traditional, a formal Livery Dinner was held in Jesus College on the Friday evening and on the Saturday morning, the Master of Jesus College, who had been a guest the previous evening, invited us into the Master's Lodge to view a very early ceiling

painting depicting Haley's comet. Although most members and their guests stayed in College, there were a number who didn't wish to sample the delights of student accommodation and made alternative arrangements in local hotels, a point not missed by the Senior Warden and by now Master-elect who was looking forward to the 1999 event but more of that later.



Top Table Jesus College Livery Dinner

This year, the Master and his Lady had their own ideas about a gift to the Company. Jim had spent most of his career in electrical power generation and distribution. They therefore asked Graham Stewart, a silversmith working in Dunblane where Moira and Jim have a cottage, to design a pair of candlesticks as a representation of the Thunderbolt motif contained in the Arms of the IEE of which Jim is a Past President. "The Thunderer" by Sousa is the official march of the Company and the natural phenomenon of thunder and lightning has an obvious connection with power engineering and the harnessing of electricity for service to mankind. The candlesticks are, therefore, an artistic representation of the process and service of electrical power engineering. Jim & Moira each presented one candlestick and at their request, they are called the "Thunderbolt" candlesticks and were a magnificent addition to the Company treasures and now regularly grace the Company table.



The 'Thunderbolt' Candlesticks

*"The Company Lecture Lectern"
Made and presented to the Company in January 1987 by
Liveryman Professor Peter Rowe FEng*



Chapter 15 1998 – 1999

Master: Dr. David S Mitchell CBE

Wardens: Mr. Richard Rooley FREng, Dr. Leonard Weaver CBE & Mr. Andrew Jackson



The new Master and Wardens were installed at a Court Meeting held at Merchant Taylors' Hall and this was followed by the Installation and Awards Dinner. The Master now recalls:

The twin aims I had as Master were to widen the knowledge of the Companies activities both within the Membership and to the public; and to strengthen and widen its Social activities. I felt strongly that all members should know what was planned and what had been achieved, not just the third of the membership who took part, and another third who took part occasionally. In other words every member should see something for his money, whether he or she decided to take an active part or not.

To improve communications the company Website was designed and set up (at minimal cost) and the Newsletter relaunched under the title of The Swordsman, with the aim of publishing three to four times a year. A subsequent development has been the On-line Swordsman, which is updated as events occur, so every member with e-mail can see a report of meetings, visits, etc within a week or so of the event.

An annual visit to HMS SULTAN, along with representatives of the Plumbers' and Fuellers' Companies was now an established part of the programme which always gave me great pleasure as I had served at SULTAN for three years in the late 1960's and the visit on 21st May was no exception.

The Company has always had a close relationship with the Ironbridge Gorge Museum and shortly after the Founder Master became President of the Development Trust in 1982, Sir Peter initiated an annual visit by Masters and Clerks to the Museum. My visit such Livery visit was in June 1987 and Sir Peter had always made it very clear that he expected to see me there each year. This wasn't a hardship as I have always been a great admirer of the work of the Museum particularly in the field of education. Over the years the Ironbridge Livery Weekend had grown in popularity with many Masters telling their successors it was a must-do visit. Therefore Mary and I always looked forward to accompanying the Master and his Lady at this event. Besides being able to see all the changes which are an ongoing feature of Ironbridge, the weekend provided the opportunity to spend time with the Master in a relaxed atmosphere. I was, however, not able to take it completely easy because, being a frequent visitor, I had been co-opted as a guide.



For the Golf Day and Dinner we were back at Little Aston on 24th July but the Master felt particularly strongly about the Club's segregation policy and was clearly very unhappy throughout the evening. It was therefore no surprise when he subsequently asked the Programme Committee to find another location for this event.

Golf Day Prize Winners with the Master



In September, the Late Summer Outing was to the Henry Royce Memorial Centre at Paulersbury in Northamptonshire. With fine weather and a superb location this was a very popular visit and, as the centre has records of every Rolls Royce car produced, a number of members were able to view the records of cars in which they had had an interest. The Rolls Royce theme was to continue with a highly informative visit to the Rolls Royce Engine Works in Derby in November. For the first time in many years, the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs were unable to attend the Annual Banquet at the Mansion House on 2nd October 1998 at which the principal guest was Commodore Malcolm Shirley at that time Director General of the Engineering Council. Malcolm had been our host on several visits to HMS SULTAN and we were delighted when he joined the Company and later the Court.

Visit to Rolls Royce Engine Works, Derby

The Annual Ladies Luncheon had tended to be held in a Livery Hall with a talk on the Hall by the Clerk but this pattern had changed the previous year when the event was held in the Stock Exchange. Although Winifred Mitchell wished to return to a Livery Hall, she was particularly keen to have a talk on one of her own interests which was "London Delftware of the 17th and 18th centuries" and we were fortunate in having Roy Stephenson of the Museum of London talking on his subject at Barber-Surgeons Hall on 28th October.

At the Wardens Lecture Dinner on 18th November, the Junior Warden gave a talk on the "The Allure of Silver" using the Company's silver collection as examples. In preparing for this talk, Andrew did extensive research on our treasures which we subsequently published. A visit to the Royal Air Force College at Cranwell to attend their Awards Dinner was another regular annual invitation and the Master and I were there on 1st December. The Annual Carol Service was held in the Tower of London on 15th December and this year the Dinner after the Service was held in Clothworkers' Hall. Although this meant we had to have a more formal event with a seating plan, it was the first time for many years we were able to seat everyone who attended in comfort. As had been the tradition, we were joined at dinner by the Chaplain to the Tower, The Reverend Paul Abram, his wife Joanna and members of the choir.



Presentation of The Hoffman Cup



The Winter Livery Dinner was held in Merchant Taylors' Hall on 27th January with Mrs Joanna Kennedy OBE FREng as the principal guest and speaker. Merchant Taylors' Livery Hall is dominated by a magnificent pipe organ and this evening, after dinner, Mr. Michael Spencer gave an organ recital. It was a delight to hear the instrument being played. Two years earlier, long serving Court Assistant Michael

Hoffman had died at a tragically early age and at this dinner, his widow presented a Georgian Loving Cup in memory of Michael. As Michael had been a Past President of the Institution of Production Engineers of which Middle Warden Len Weaver was the last holder of that office prior to their merger with the IEE, the newly presented "Hoffman Cup" was placed in front of the Middle Warden and it subsequently became the tradition that the Middle Warden always used the Hoffman Cup.



The Election Court Dinner on 2nd March 1999 was made memorable by the attendance of our First Honorary Liveryman, HRH The Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh. Winifred Mitchell hadn't been well and there was a chance that the Master wouldn't be able to attend so Past Masters were on stand-by to step in as necessary. Fortunately they weren't needed and David was in position to greet The Duke. During the reception Prince Phillip was able to meet everyone attending and seemed to thoroughly enjoy the evening. It is our tradition that as the Clerk announces the names of the new

Master and Wardens, each process to the Master and exchange a Loving Cup so that the Master actually drinks from the cup four times and although no-one in the Hall actually heard the comment from The Duke it was sufficient to cause the Master and the others near the centre of the top table to collapse in fits of laughter.

David had had a most successful year but it is probably best remembered for The Out-of-Town Meeting held on 9th, 10th & 11th April based at the Portmeirion Hotel. The Master recalls: *"Turning to the Social scene I proposed that as an experiment we should try a change from the slightly Spartan accommodation of College Halls for our Out-of-Town meeting and try something more ambitious, though clearly somewhat more expensive. I had made enquiries of the Portmeirion Hotel and had established that we could have its exclusive use for a long weekend. The Court agreed that it was worth seeing how the Livery responded. The result exceeded all expectations and proved a great success. What I hadn't expected was that it would set the pattern for future Out-of-Town meetings!"*

When the Master first proposed the idea of using a First class Hotel my natural concern was the likely cost but early discussions with the General Manager of the Hotel showed a special deal was possible so the Master and I took a chance and booked the whole hotel and the additional accommodation within Portmeirion Village for three nights. In the autumn, Mary and I travelled to Portmeirion to stay in the hotel for two nights and also to meet up with David and Winifred to walk the course, checking timings and menus. This was the first time we had done a pre-visit but it not only proved essential but also set a precedent for all future Out-of-Town meetings.



Part of Portmeirion Village

Through the good offices of Assistant Bob Hawley, we were able to arrange an afternoon visit to the Electric Mountain at Dinorvic near Llanberis so this became the starting point for the weekend with most attendees assembling there for lunch on the Thursday. On the Friday morning we travelled by coach into Portmadoc to join the Festiniog Railway to travel up to the Slate Quarries at Bleaneau Festiniog for a full day visit including going underground into the slate caverns. Returning by the Festiniog Railway, it was possible to alight before Portmadoc and take a scenic walk through the woods back to Portmeirion. On the Saturday, for those who wanted to spend an extra day, which was the majority, there was a visit to Bodnant Gardens with a coach journey through Snowdonia before returning to the Hotel. Early fears that the cost might defer Liverymen and their guests were proving unfounded and we were rapidly running out of accommodation. As the Hotel dining room could take more than could be accommodated and we had spare capacity on the coaches, the Master and I agreed, during the pre-visit, to find additional alternative accommodation to be offered to those on the waiting list. Although we found and booked somewhere, those who stayed there found it not entirely to their liking but accepted it as being better than not attending. Some Liverymen have never let me forget they were in second class accommodation and since then we have always had everyone in the same place even if that meant some being disappointed.

A few days before leaving office the Master hosted the 2nd and final Luncheon for potential Lady Freeman and then shortly afterwards travelled down to the Britannia Royal Navy College at Dartmouth to present the first Thunderer medal at the Sovereigns Parade on 23rd April. Some years earlier, the Royal Naval Engineering College in Plymouth which was commissioned as HMS THUNDERER had closed down and undergraduate officer engineering training was transferred to Southampton University. At the University, 'Thunderer Squadron' commanded by a Royal Navy Commander had been established to retain and maintain naval ethos amongst the undergraduates. The Master, Past Master Rear Admiral Peter Hammersley, Past Master Rear Admiral John Grove and I visited the University and the Squadron and were most impressed by the work being done and the Company subsequently offered to give a medal and certificate to be known as the Thunderer Prize to the best graduating student who was continuing with a naval career. This award continued in this form until 2006 when there was a review of all the Service awards.

At the end of their year, David & Winifred decided to very generously donate miniatures of the Master's Ladies Brooch to be worn by Past Master's Ladies. The Master's Ladies Brooch had been donated by Peter and Cynthia Hammersley in 1999 and since 1994 there had been a special Luncheon immediately after the Installation Dinner at which the Brooch was passed to the new Master's Lady. The brooch had always been much admired and most Master's Ladies were reluctant to part with it so having a smaller version to keep was much appreciated. Previous Master's were able to buy one for their Ladies but since 2000, all Master's Ladies have been presented with a miniature at the Brooch Lunch. David and Winifred did, however, make one stipulation as part of their gift which was that only Ladies who had served alongside the Master were entitled to wear the miniature.



Past Master's Lady's Brooch

Chapter 16 1999 – 2000

Master: Mr. Richard H Rooley FREng

Wardens: Dr. Leonard Weaver CBE, Mr. Andrew Jackson & Mr. Raymond Cousins



Richard Rooley was installed as Master at the Installation Dinner held on 27th April 1999 in Plaisterers' Hall at which the principal guest was Alderman Clive Martin, the Senior Alderman below the chair. Richard was our second Master to have already been Master of another Livery Company having been Master of the Constructors' Company a few years earlier and Trevor Crocker had also been Master Glazier before becoming our Master. Both Sir Peter Gadsden and Sir Francis McWilliams served as Master Clothworker and Master Loriner respectively but, in both cases, after they had been Master Engineer.

Raymond Cousins had been the Founder Assistant Clerk and also a Court Assistant since the foundation of the Company. He and I had worked together from 1986 and it was a particular pleasure to see Raymond installed as Junior Warden even though it meant we no longer had an Assistant Clerk.

Even before his installation, Richard had raised with the Court the possibility of the Out-of-Town meeting being held in Dublin. Both Richard and his wife Ruth were graduates of Trinity College Dublin and had family connections in Ireland. However the troubles in Northern Ireland were still fresh in the memory and there was initially some resistance but by the time of the installation, this had largely evaporated and Court approval was given. From a Clerk's point of view this presented some logistical problems and the fluctuating rate of exchange didn't help in establishing a budget. Richard was fortunate in finding an agency in Dublin who were prepared to do most of the detailed negotiations with hotels and other venues, so in late September the Master, Ruth Rooley, Mary and I "walked the course" not only having a very enjoyable visit at the Rooley cottage but also staying at the suggested hotel. I will return to the Dublin visit at the end of the Master's year.



The Master at Denbies

On 6th September 1999, the Late Summer Outing was to the Denbies Wine Estate including a tour of the winery and a wine tasting before having supper in the main restaurant. This was followed on 29th September by another joint lecture with the Scientific Instrument Makers' Company and the London branch of the IEE. Annual Banquets can often be stressful occasions for both the

Master and the Clerk and on arrival at the Mansion House for our Annual Banquet on 1st October 1999 we were met with the news that the Lord Mayor, Alderman Lord Levene, might be delayed on a flight from Brussels but, if necessary, we should start without him. In fact the Lord Mayor arrived on time and we all breathed a sigh of relief. However we had only been seated at table for 5 – 10 minutes when I noticed the Lord Mayor was missing. My first reaction was "what has the Master done?" but the Duty Esquire assured me the Lord Mayor had had to take a urgent phone call but I don't think any of us relaxed again until the evening was successfully over.

For the Ladies Luncheon, Ruth wanted a speaker to talk about the insurance business within which she currently worked and had hoped to use the old Port of London Authority Building but no suitable space was available for hire. Fortunately Trinity House, almost next door to the PLA building, was available, which made another most interesting venue for this event which was held on 27th October and which also included a talk on the history of Trinity House.

As the Junior Warden, Raymond Cousins, had been involved with the Company from its earliest days, he choose as his topic for the Wardens' Lecture Dinner on 17th November 1999 "Engineering a Company" which covered the history of the formation and first three years of the Company. I have drawn heavily on this lecture for much of the early information on the Company and both Raymond's Lecture and the one given a year earlier by Andrew Jackson were printed in a booklet which is still presented to all new Liverymen when they clothed in the livery.

The Annual Carol Service was held in the Tower of London on 15th December with a dinner afterwards in Clothworkers' Hall. On 26th January 2000, the Winter Livery Dinner was held in Drapers' Hall which is a beautiful Hall with excellent rooms for the reception but does not have a minstrel's gallery. As the Engineers' Company has always had a military band, often the Light Orchestra of the Corps of Royal Engineers, playing at its functions, the siting of the band presents a problem as there is always going to be a number of members and guests seated very close to the music.



In February 2000, it was time for the 7th Bridge Lecture and the Master felt strongly we should in some way mark the start of the new Millennium and he decided to invite the Bishop of London to be the guest Lecturer. The Rt. Hon. and Rt. Reverend Richard Chartres gave a most stimulating and fascinating lecture on the human genome project for which we subsequently received many requests for reprints.

Also in February, the Master and I hosted a Modern Companies Dinner at the City of London Club. The Masters of the modern companies which start with the Master Mariners' (Number 78) had started meeting informally in the early 1990's and had now become a regular six-monthly event. Attendance had also been extended to include Senior Wardens so giving them a chance to get to know each other before their year in office and the host Company also choose the guest speaker. We were one of the few Livery Companies to use the City of London Club

so the Master and I felt it would be a good opportunity for companies to visit the Club. Before dinner, I gave a short talk on the history of the Club and the speaker after dinner was the Vice Chancellor of the City University, Professor David Rhind.

Our ordinances had always required the Company to go to Church before the Election Court but this meant that any Liverymen attending the Service had to wait for sometime before the Reception and Election Court Dinner. This year, following earlier Court approval, the programme was changed so that the Service was held between the Court Meeting and the Election Court Dinner which resulted in significantly better attendance at the Service which was now held at St. Lawrence Jewry next Guildhall.

And so to the Out-of-Town Meeting in Dublin on 13th, 14th & 15th April 2000. Richard, Ruth, Mary and I actually checked into the Westbury Hotel in Dublin on the Wednesday evening so there was no chance of being delayed which was just as well as we were already there to greet many of the participants who arrived early on the Thursday morning. The weekend started with an informal dinner in the hotel on the Thursday evening. On the Friday morning, the technical visit with the theme of 'medical engineering' was firstly to the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland for a talk on hip replacements with a visit to the Anatomy Room - not for the squeamish - and then on to the Engineering Department of Trinity College. For the non-technical there was a guided tour of Dublin in the morning and a visit to a stately home in the afternoon. After lunch

in the College there was an opportunity to see 'The Book of Kells' in the College Library. The Livery Dinner was held back in the Royal College of Surgeons which is a historic building still having bullet holes in windows following the 1916 riots. When planning the dinner, we had asked if there would be any problems if we over-ran to 11.00 p.m. to be met with surprised looks as their usual functions went on long after midnight. On Saturday, everyone travelled by coach to visit the site of the Battle of the Boyne with its visitor centre at Bru na Boinne. From here it is also possible to visit Newgrange the site of a most impressive passage tomb dating from 300 BC. The passage into the tomb is extremely narrow and having just made it in and out I did wonder whether I was ever going to see some of our larger members again as they squeezed their ways passed the entrance. However everyone made it as we headed back to Dublin for an evening function at the Jameson's Whisky Distillery which not only included whisky tasting but also excellent entertainment from Irish musicians. The visit ended on the Sunday morning with a Sung Eucharist Service at Christchurch Cathedral – one of two Anglican Cathedrals in Dublin but particularly interesting to structural engineers because of its leaning walls after which we all lunched together at a Dublin bar before the flights home. So another Master's year came to a most successful conclusion.



A Company Treasure:

The Abraham Darby III Tankard

Believed to have been a 21st Birthday Gift and presented to the Company in September 1884.

Chapter 17 2000 – 2001

Master: Dr. Leonard J Weaver CBE

Wardens: Mr. Andrew Jackson, Mr. Raymond Cousins & Sir David Davies CBE FRS FREng



Our Ordinances require the Master and Wardens to be installed in the month of April but 2000 had difficulties. The Out-of-Town meeting in Dublin precluded a date early in the month and Easter was late this year so the only possible Tuesday (our traditional day) was immediately after Easter Monday. This would have made it very difficult for Award Winners as well as many Liverymen. The Court came up with a typical engineering solution by passing the following resolution "For the purposes of the Engineers' Company only, the month of April 2000 will consist of 39 days. The day after 39th April will be 10th May" The Installation Court and Dinner were held therefore on Tuesday 9th May at Plaisterers' Hall with the Menu Cards giving the date as 39th April. Those who noted the date just assumed the Clerk had made yet another typing error!

The Master recalls: I consider myself privileged to have served the Company as Master in the Millennium year. It was a most enjoyable but hectic succession of events - dinners in the Mansion House and many Livery Halls - guest nights in Service messes - processing with other Masters in the Guildhall and in St Paul's. This year culminated in the week-end in York - much enjoyed by all who attended - when I had the memorable experience of riding on the footplate of a massive A4 steam locomotive.

I believe my year was successful from an external viewpoint. The generous comments in the thank-you letters I received after such major functions as the Installation and Winter Livery Dinners and the Banquet together with many quite unsolicited comments made about the Engineers during my year were most encouraging. I certainly felt that I had been able to maintain, if not enhance, the high regard in which this young Company - not yet even 20 years old - was held in the City.



At the Installation Dinner, the Chaplain, The Reverend Michael West FREng, a Founder Member of the Company and a Past President of the Institution of Mining & Metallurgy presented to the Company a silver statue of Santa Barbara on behalf of twenty seven Liverymen from the Institution of Mining & Metallurgy, The Institute of Materials and The Institution of Mining Engineers.

The Company had been a supporter of the Young Engineers scheme and when the Surrey SATRO proposed "Young Entrepreneurs" this seemed a logical extension as it required pupils undertaking engineering related projects at secondary schools to consider the production and marketing aspects of their inventions. This new scheme had the enthusiastic support of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh and the Company had agreed to sponsor an annual exhibition at 1 Carlton House Terrace at which Prince Phillip could view the projects. This year the exhibition, held on 25th May, not only produced a wide range of excellent ideas but definitely helped in encouraging those taking part to study engineering at University.

In July, the then Lord Mayor, Alderman Clive Martin, organised a charity event in aid of Barnardos at which Freemen were able to exercise their time honoured right to drive sheep over London Bridge. As you can imagine, this attracted a lot of attention and each Livery Company was allowed three participants which were to be the Master, Assistant Robert Hawley and myself. We were each given a sheep to lead for approximately 100 yards across the bridge between two Pikemen acting as markers. Unfortunately, the Master was delayed in traffic and so at the last minute I insisted on Bob Hawley wearing the Master's robe; I was already in the Clerk's gown and together we led our sheep. By this time, it was a little chaotic on London Bridge and the promised official photographs never materialised; perhaps just as well as we had someone impersonating the Master! I understand that after the event the City Police had said "never again" because of the disruption to traffic so it was good to be part of a possibly unique event.

Over the first six months of the Master's year, I accompanied Len at the Ironbridge Livery Weekend, another Billesden Dinner at Merchant Taylors' Hall, a visit to the Black Country Museum, HMS SULTAN, the Royal Corps of Signals at Blandford and the Royal Air Force College at Cranwell.

Within the Company, the Annual Golf Day in July was held at a new venue, Frilford Heath near Oxford and the Late Summer Outing was planned to be a return visit to Painshill Gardens in Surrey. However 15th September 2000 was in the middle of the fuel protests and there had been torrential rains. When we all assembled at Painshill, having negotiated floods and with a constant eye on the fuel gauge, it was still pouring with rain so we abandoned the visit and went instead to Polesdon Lacey, a nearby National Trust property. On arrival, we were received with open arms as we were the only visitors they had had all day. After a tour of the house the rain had stopped so we returned to Painshill for afternoon tea which we had pre-booked. The Annual Banquet on 6th October was memorable as two-thirds of the centre sprig was occupied by the six Weaver sons and daughter, their partners and other family members.

For the Ladies Lunch on 25th October, we returned to Barber Surgeons' Hall and Penny Weaver arranged for a talk on Alzheimer's Disease; a subject in which she had a particular interest through her work with the Alzheimer's Society. The new Junior Warden, Sir David Davies gave a talk on Rail Safety at the Wardens Lecture Dinner on 22nd November and a further joint lecture with the Scientific Instruments Makers Company and the IEE was held on 30th November. The Carol Service on 20th December in the Tower of London was followed by dinner at Stationers' Hall which was somewhat delayed when the City Engineer decided to dig up Lower Thames Street meaning the coaches had to go a long way round.. The remaining main events of Len year followed the usual pattern with the Winter Livery Dinner at Clothworkers' Hall on 24th January and the Election Court Meeting and Dinner on 6th March 2001. An extra event was the evening visit to the Design Museum on 14th February for a private view of the Brunel Exhibition.

I don't think either Len or I will forget our visit to the Royal Naval Air Station at Yeovil on 7th December 2000. The visit was to enable the Master to meet one of the Service Award Winners who had been unable to attend the Awards Dinner but once again there had been torrential rain. Although our journeys to the Air Station were uneventful and we had a most successful and informative visit, getting home proved more difficult. Len went back via the A303 and took 7 hours to get home instead of 2 whilst I had travelled into Devon to pick up Mary who was visiting an Aunt. We eventually finished up going down to Exeter and then using the M5, M4 and M25 motorways getting home sometime after midnight but at least we made it.

One benefit of being involved with a Livery Company is the chance to get involved in notable celebrations. Len and I were particularly fortunate in being invited by the Plaisterers' Company to attend their 500th Anniversary Service in St. Paul's Cathedral and the Reception afterwards in Plaisterers' Hall. Our enjoyment of the reception was slightly tempered by the need to leave early to attend the Annual Dinner of the Institute of Marine Engineers at Grosvenor House.

There were, however, three highlights to this year namely the production of the Millennium Centrepiece, discussions with the Privy Council and the Out-of-Town Meeting to York. When the Master and I were together at the University of Surrey in Guildhall in July 2000, Len told me that as the 'Millennium' Master, he had decided to donate a silver table centrepiece to the Company and wanted to involve students at the John Cass College of the Guildhall University in the design and manufacture. We had a series of fascinating meetings with members of the Gold & Silver Design Department during which a brief for the centrepiece was agreed which stated a 'centrepiece representing engineering development and success over the last 4 centuries and continuing development into the 21st Century'. The Master offered a prize of £500 for the winning design and there were a number of innovative and exciting entries from which Len short listed two. In the end, the final choice designed by Alex Ramsey was the one which would have the greatest visual impact although Len did also give an additional runners-up prize of £250. Further meetings took place as the design was implemented and the centrepiece took shape. I believe the end result exceeded all the Master's expectations and it is one of the most admired and striking of our treasures.



The piece depicts in its granite base the solid base for technology that existed before the Industrial Revolution. The silver base alludes to increasing focus or engineering with its hammered texture suggesting the large number of people involved during the 19th century. The top cone rises out of the base as the new age of engineering and reaches to the future. The pieces fit together in such a way to represent that modern engineering grew from knowledge of the past but also that it moves in a radical new direction. Coloured titanium panels signify electronics and the computer age. The base bears the arms of both Dr. Weaver and the Worshipful Company of Engineers.

The Millennium Centrepiece

The Master introduces our meeting with the Clerk to the Privy Council "*My main contribution to the internal development of the Company during my year of office was initiating discussions with Alex Galloway, the Clerk to the Privy Council, about the possibility of our Company being granted a Royal Charter. I invited him to lunch at the Reform Club on 13th March 2001 where Bryan Gibson and I presented this complex matter to him at some length and he responded well by outlining a possible way ahead. The subsequent close contact we maintained with him proved to be most helpful and we successfully petitioned for a Royal Charter which was granted in 2004*"

The last Royal Charter to a Livery Company had been the Charter granted to the Solicitors' Company on 21st July 1958. Initially Alex Galloway was not optimistic but as the discussion progressed this changed particularly over the need for Livery Companies to be incorporated in such a way as not to limit their liability. Following the meeting, the Master and I produced a paper setting out our case for a Royal Charter which was subsequently sent to the Privy Council so that the Clerk could take appropriate soundings. After our initial meeting in 2001, we had on-going contact with the Privy Council office but it was 2003 before Len and I had our next meeting with the Clerk in his office. This meeting was so positive we were encouraged to submit a draft Petition and Charter without delay. The speed of subsequent events was breathtaking leading to HM The Queen approving the Grant of a Royal Charter at a meeting of the Privy Council held on 13th February 2004. Once again the Engineers' Company had made history but more of this later.

It will have been obvious from previous chapters that the Out-of-Town had continuously developed to the extent we were now looking at a 3-day event with 3 dinners, 2 lunches and numerous visits. It was, however, still the tradition that the location was chosen by the Master to reflect his own interests and Len had chosen York with the theme of Railway Engineering. Such was the complexity of the event, we needed to make two planning visits, the first in July 2000 to select a hotel and make an initial assessment of possible visits and locations for the dinners and the second in early 2001 to finalise all the arrangements. Whilst in Dublin the previous year, Liveryman David Everington had mentioned that his son Christopher now ran an agency specialising in corporate tours and hospitality. I started to use Chris's contacts and expertise in planning the York visit and he took an immense load off my shoulders. This was the start of a most fruitful relationship which still continues.

On Thursday 5th April 2001, over 100 members and partners assembled in York for an informal dinner in the hotel. On the Friday morning, the technical visit was to York Minster for a presentation and tour of the work done to underpin the Great Tower whilst the non-technical visit was to the York Museum. Breakfast in the hotel hadn't gone quite according to plan due to an internal communications failure so in compensation the hotel provided additional wine at lunch together with an extra course. Very generous but perhaps not entirely appropriate when the afternoon technical visit was to the Electronics and Computer Departments of the University of York whilst the other party went to Harewood House.

The Livery Dinner on the Friday evening was held in Merchant Adventurers' Hall; a superb 14th century building although we were advised not to have peas on the menu due to the sloping floors! The City of York was represented by the Sheriff of York who by tradition always proposes the toast to "The Queen" at functions held in the City. Elizabethan music, played a little too loudly, accompanied the meal but this didn't lessen the enjoyment of everyone present. The speaker that evening was Court Assistant, Sir David Davies as President of the Royal Academy of Engineering. Initially I had refused the Master's request to take some of our silver up to York but when the Clerk to the Merchant Adventurers' Company offered to store everything in their vaults I had to agree although it meant Mary and me taking turns to leave the car at Service Stations.

On the Saturday morning, everyone joined together for a visit to Castle Howard before journeying on to Pickering Station. Everyone knew we were going on the North Yorks Moors Railway but the Master and I had kept secret that our train was to be hauled by an A4 locomotive called "The Sir Nigel Gresley" after the designer of that class. It was a memorable moment when the locomotive steamed into view with a sign reading "The Engineers" on the front. We were then served a magnificent lunch in their restored Pullman cars and as the Master mentioned at the beginning of the chapter, he was able to ride on the footplate on the return journey. The extensive use of the whistle gave a clear indication of his enjoyment. The railway theme continued in the evening with a visit and dinner in the National Railway Museum. However the surprises were not quite over.

Chapter 18 2001 – 2002

Master: Mr. Andrew G Jackson
Wardens: Mr. Raymond Cousins, Sir David Davies CBE FRS FREng
& Major General E (Ted) G Willmott CB OBE



Andrew Jackson had joined the Court in 1990 only three years after becoming a Liveryman and therefore in terms of seniority could have expected to be Master somewhat earlier. Because he now ran his own business in Hereford and did not have a high profile within the profession, his earlier senior engineering experience tended to be overlooked but through his enthusiasm for the Company and his diligence in attending almost every function and Court meeting, he was now rewarded and was installed in office at the Installation Court held at Merchant Taylors' Hall. This was then followed by the Installation and Awards Dinner. Through his year, Andrew represented the Company most effectively accepting almost every invitation and maintaining the very high standard set by his predecessors.

The Company programme followed its now traditional format with the Late Summer Outing to the Royal Naval Air Station and Fleet Air Arm Museum, Yeovilton on 14th September. This was followed by the Annual Banquet in the Mansion House on 5th October and the Ladies Luncheon held for the first time at Leathersellers' Hall. A Joint lecture with the Scientific

Instrument Makers' Company and the IEE was held on 16th November. The Wardens Lecture Dinner followed on 21st November with the talk given by the Junior Warden Ted Willmott on Health Service Financing. The Carol Service was at the Tower of London on 18th December but the dinner which followed at Clothworkers' Hall had an interesting additional attraction. In 1993, we had, at short notice, needed a photographer and I had turned to someone who had been at school with my son and having qualified as an electronics engineer had decided to become a photographer. Jon Murrell quickly became established as the Company Photographer but having a pony tail often raised eyebrows. During the year, Jon had suggested he would be happy to have his pony tail cut-off if we could raise money for both our own Charitable Trust Fund and the Royal Marsden Hospital. We therefore invited donations from Liverymen towards the 'Pony Tail' fund and after dinner, on a raised dais, the Master ceremonially removed Jon's pony tail. Fortunately someone was on hand to give Jon a somewhat better trim than the Master's crude efforts but we raised a very considerable sum of money as well as having a great time. The normal programme continued with the Winter Livery Dinner at Stationers' Hall and the Election Court Dinner at the City of London Club on 5th March 2002.

This year saw the death of our Founder Clerk, Michael Leonard CVO, and Past Master Peter Hammersley and I attended his funeral at Leatherhead. Michael as Secretary first of the Chartered Engineering Institutes (CEI) and then of the Fellowship of Engineering (later the Royal Academy of Engineering) had played a major role in the engineering profession over many years. Although only Clerk for just under 3 years, he nevertheless was instrumental in ensuring good relations between our newly formed Company and all the other engineering institutions. He had not been in good health for many years and had not been seen at Company events since the late 1980's so it was perhaps rather sad that at the time of his death, so many of the members of the Company no longer had any idea of his contributions.

It is not often realised how many 'external' events a Master attends during his year so here Andrew recalls the significant events of his year: -

Coopers Company 500th Anniversary, Bart's Hospital Open day, City of London Freemans School Visit Services in St. Paul's [Musicians Company Evensong, Corporation of the Sons of Clergy, United Guild Service, Feast of St Cecelia and a Service to mark the 50th Anniversary of The Queen's succession on 6th February 2002], Cutlers Feast, Service Dinners [Royal Engineers, REME, Royal Corps of Signals, Royal Air Force]. Ironbridge Livery Weekend, Plaisterers 500th Anniversary Dinner, Installation of Chancellor of City University in Guildhall, Opening of Garden of Remembrance at St. Paul's, Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, Treloar Trust Visit, Lord Mayor's Show when invited to be one of twelve Masters to "greet" the new Lord Mayor on his arrival at the Mansion House, Lord Mayor's Dinner for the Upper Bailiff, Masters and Prime Wardens.

One event which gave the Master, Christine, Mary and I particularly pleasure was the invitation to attend the 80th Birthday Luncheon for HRH The Duke of Edinburgh given by the Corporation of London in Guildhall. We were both invited because of the association of Prince Phillip with the Engineers' Company but it was a real privilege to be there. As Andrew was to be presented he and Christine had to stay close to Pikeman Station 3 whereas Mary and I were free to mingle amongst many of the other guests. At that time, Mary and I could not have imagined that 5 years later we would be invited to HM The Queen's 80th Birthday Lunch in the Mansion House.

As the Master writes "It is true to say that pretty well all of the events I attended during my year advanced the Company's objectives in some way. Some were more obvious than others – for example the visits to The City of London Freemans School and Treloars Trust where we made significant monetary gifts were clearly appreciated by the recipients and had obvious PR value to the Company. But in many cases by "just being there" meant a lot to both me and I am sure those that saw me as Master at the functions. Indeed the fact that the Master Engineer had been invited to some functions, for example the 500th Anniversary Celebrations of the Plaisterers and the Coopers, showed that we had "arrived" as a Company, and we were recognised as a significant player in the Livery as only a few Masters of Livery Companies were invited to these events.

There were also two events in support of our charitable activities. On 4th September, the Company again supported a Young Entrepreneurs Exhibition at 1 Carlton House Terrace attended by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh and on 9th November I attended the presentation of the Lady Finnistone Awards at the Engineering Employers' Federation. These later awards are specifically for ladies returning to engineering work after a career break and the Company had regularly sponsored one of the awards.

Although the Master couldn't know it at the start of his year, the Company was about to undergo a number of significant changes and he was going to have to make major decisions at almost no notice. I had already informed the Court that I would be standing down as Clerk at the end of 2002 after nearly 17 years and this would have the consequence that facilities at 1 Carlton House Terrace would no longer be available to us. However this became a more urgent problem in early 2002, when the Institute of Materials decided, following an internal reorganisation, to make Stephen the Beadle redundant. This meant we could no longer store all our treasures and archives at 1 Carlton House Terrace. The search was on for new suitable secure accommodation but requests to other Livery Companies with Halls wasn't yielding any success when out of the blue, we received an offer from Rolls Royce allowing us the use of a basement room in their headquarters building at no charge. This gave us all the space we needed and with the Master's agreement we accepted at once. Stephen and I with the help of Jon Murrell and a member of the IoM staff then spent an entire Saturday on 13th April 2002 moving everything from the IoM to Rolls Royce. I had forgotten just how much material we had stored away. One problem solved!

Stephen had been the Beadle since January 1987 and knew a great deal about the workings of the Company and he was now available for employment. We had already been working on a job specification of the Clerk's job but this assumed someone working part-time from home which made it very difficult to see how we could give Stephen more responsibilities. Then one day in mid-February, I received a letter from the Clerk to the Wax Chandler's Company indicating they had office accommodation available. I responded immediately and made an appointment to see the space on offer on 25th February. As I toured Wax Chandler's Hall it was clear they could offer everything we needed but at what cost. I had done a quick

mental calculation on what I thought would be within our budget so with baited breath, I asked the rent and service charge. To my surprise and delight, the figures mentioned came within what I thought we could afford. That evening, I attended the Annual Meeting of the Fellowship of Clerks at which I was elected and installed as President so I had to work late into the night looking at all the figures but I was convinced it could work. I was due to see the Master the next evening and so was able to bring him up-to-date and he agreed to come and see the office. Time was tight because there were other Companies expressing an interest and we also had a Court Meeting coming up in early March. Andrew quickly saw the merits of having a Company office in Gresham Street so close to Guildhall and we rapidly put together a paper to present to the Court. With no advance notice, the Court on 5th March enthusiastically accepted the proposal and barely two weeks from first viewing, we made a formal offer for the lease which was accepted by the Wax Chandler's Company. It was agreed we would move in at the beginning of June 2002.

Having our own office, meant we could now look again at Job Specifications and it was agreed to allocate a number of the Clerk's duties to the post of full-time Beadle. In effect the Beadle was to become the office manager in addition to his normally ceremonial duties and we were all delighted when Stephen Grundy agreed to take on this new post particularly as he was able to start as soon as we moved into Gresham Street. The Job Specification for the Clerk was now changed to reflect Stephen's appointment and we were now looking for some-one able to give 2 ½ to 3 days a week to the Company rather than full time as originally envisaged. Over night the fundamental way we ran the Company changed and it was largely due to the Master's incisive nature we were able to move so quickly.



Despite everything that was going on we still had a Bridge Lecture to organise in February when Court Assistant Dr. Robert Hawley, Chairman of Taylor Woodrow gave the lecture and was described by the Master in his introduction as "an imminent engineer". On 14th March, the Master and Christine attended the Lord Mayor's Annual Dinner for Masters at which Mary and I were also present in my role as President of the Fellowship of Clerks. Andrew had been giving some thought to a possible Master's gift but hadn't as yet come up with any ideas, when I received from a letter from Stella Timmins; a lady who had designed some of the stained glass windows for the new Guildhall Art Gallery. There were five arrow-slit windows overlooking Guildhall Yard and she was proposing Livery Companies with connections with the Royal Family might consider sponsoring new stain glass windows as part of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Celebrations. I suggested to Andrew this might be an idea for his gift and he was very enthusiastic. He subsequently mentioned the suggestion to the Master-elect so on 15th March 2002, Andrew, Raymond and I met with Stella Timmins and they agreed to jointly sponsor a window. By chance, our window is the one you first see when going up the stairs to the gallery over the main staircase so we are in a prominent position.

Engineers' Window in the Guildhall Art Gallery

The Election Court Dinner saw Raymond Cousins elected as Master. Raymond had also been Master of the Worshipful Company of Woolmen as well as having been their Clerk so his knowledge was now to be invaluable as it was to fall to him to chair the interview panel for a new Clerk. But this is for the next chapter.

The last event of Andrew's year was to be the Out-of-Town Meeting in Hereford. Mary and I had made several planning visits to Hereford and so in early April we sat back and awaited the arrival of over 100 Liverymen and guests to the Green Dragon Hotel. After the informal dinner on the Thursday evening, we assembled on the Friday morning for visits to Bulmer's Cider with lunch at the Cider Museum. Then it was on to the Cathedral for a tour and in particular to view the Stone Mason's Yard. However I had to cut short the visit to the Cathedral to go to the Town Hall to help

Stephen set up for the Livery Dinner. At the Master's request and with assistance from the Founder Master, we had arranged for the Light Infantry "Sounding Retreat" in High Town with the salute being taken by The Right Worshipful the Mayor and the Master. This required the Master and the Mayor to process from the Town Hall to High Town, fully robed, and preceded by their Sword Bearers, which for the Company meant Stephen. The Master had borrowed a Tudor Bonnet from the Carmen's Company (his "mother" company) and they also lent me a bicorn hat – very fetching. The organising of the Sounding Retreat Ceremony took some doing as we had to arrange for extra road sweeping, crowd barriers and also a flag on the Lloyds building opposite the saluting dais. It was surprisingly difficult to organise a Bandsman on the roof of a Bank outside working hours. However it was a most successful ceremony and the local CCF assisted in a collection for both the Engineers' Company and local charities. Organising a formal Livery Dinner outside the City is always interesting as the staff are not usually familiar with the way we do things but everything, under Stephen's guidance, normally goes to plan as it did on this occasion.



The Master (left) and Clerk (right) before being led in procession by the Sword bearers in Hereford

Next morning it was off to the Waterworks Museum and after a lunch at a local restaurant, there was a little free time before once again boarding the coaches for a formal Dinner at Eastnor Castle. Another exceptional

venue with tours of the Castle after Dinner. A Sung Eucharist Service in Hereford next morning rounded off another enjoyable and successful weekend.

There was a follow-up to the Out-of-Town Meeting when on 7th June 2003, the then Master, Den Davies, led a party of Engineers, including Andrew Jackson, back to Hereford Cathedral for a Service of Thanksgiving to mark the completion of Phase VI of the restoration to which, in 2002, we had donated an 'Engineers' Stone'.

For this chapter I will let the Master have the last word and give you his insight into the Role of the Company and the reasons for its success:

We are undeniably one of the most successful of the modern Livery Companies – even highly regarded by most of the "senior" companies. I would put forward the following reasons: -

A succession of excellent Masters, who have devoted themselves 100% to the Company during their year of office

All of the Court and indeed the majority of the Liverymen have a clear idea of the Company objectives.

The high entrance standard ensures that membership is "top drawer", and each member is confident of his/her abilities and consequently not afraid to "speak up" on matters of importance.

The high regard of one another's abilities and capabilities [particularly true of Court members].

The sterling service rendered by the Clerk, with particular regard to his intimate knowledge of the "City ways of doing things".

From the outset I tried to attend nearly all the functions to which I was invited, as I realised it was often just as important to "see and be seen" as "being heard". Also an invitation refused one year might well mean the next year's Master not receiving a like invitation. However I was not unwilling to "sing for my supper". When invited as a guest I made a conscious attempt to meet as many other Liverymen as possible. I initiated the original idea of the concept of "Junior Members". My first thoughts were to create a "journeyman" member, but after some further two years debate this was finally resolved by the concept of "C. Eng" Freemen.

Chapter 19 2002 – 2003

Master: Mr. Raymond J R Cousins
Wardens: Sir David Davies CBE FRS FREng, Major General E G Willmott CB OBE
& Dr. Robert Hawley CBE FREng FRSE



The Master recalls:

In 1983 it was a great pleasure to receive a phone call from Sir Peter Gadsden inviting me to assist in the formation of a new City Livery Company for Engineers.

As a Liveryman and Clerk of an ancient Company who had witnessed the formation of a number of Modern Companies there was clear gap for Engineers. To join the small group of Founders and to have an influence in the way in which the Company developed for many years as Assistant Clerk and through the various offices of Wardens and finally as Master in 2002-2003 has been very exciting and rewarding. Apart from Royal Fellowship of Engineering there is no other organisation that covers the whole range of activities which is Engineering and it can only be a good thing that Engineers talk to each other.

It had been known for some time that Bryan Gibson would be retiring as Clerk during my year as Master and that different arrangements for the management of the Company would be necessary. Shortly before I was installed the opportunity arose for the Company to take an office in Wax Chandlers' Hall. My predecessor, Andrew Jackson, and I were quick to see that an

office in the City would be a great advantage for the future development of the Company and the move into the new office was made very soon after the start of my year. A second highlight, which I shared with Andrew, was our joint gift to the Company of installing a stained glass window of the Company's Coat of Arms in the Guildhall Art Gallery. This window, installed at the same time as those of five other Companies just before the Queen's Golden Jubilee celebration, is a permanent embellishment of the new Art Gallery.

The Carol Service and Dinner in December 2002 provided an excellent setting to express the Company's appreciation to Bryan Gibson, and to his wife Mary, for all that they had done for the Company during Bryan's 17 years as Clerk. We were not able that evening to congratulate Bryan but were delighted to learn later that he was to be made an MBE in the New Year's honours list in recognition of his service to Engineering and to the Company. That evening we also welcomed Graham Skinner, and his wife Margaret, as the new Clerk from 1st January 2003.

To conclude my year the out-of-town visit was the first to a foreign-speaking land and we had the pleasure of visiting the area around the ancient town of Tours in the Loire Valley of France. Much was learnt about Nuclear Power and its place in the French Electricity system and the historical association of the area with England.

A most enjoyable year which established the foundation for the future exciting development of the Company and its promotion of Engineering.

As will now be obvious from the previous chapter and Raymond's comments above, his year was to herald the most significant changes in the Company's short history but there was also to be an exciting and interesting programme of events. As previously mentioned Raymond had been involved in the setting up of the Company and had been for many years the Founder Assistant Clerk. In those early years, Raymond brought a wealth of knowledge about the City and Livery Companies and was a major factor in ensuring the early success of the Engineers'. Raymond's year started with the Installation & Awards Dinner at Merchant



Taylor's Hall when Admiral Sir Michael Boyce, the Chief of the Defence Staff was the Principal Guest and over the next few months he had a range of engagements including the City Lecture in St. Paul's, a Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators Dinner at Painters' Hall, the IMechE Presidential Address, the Ironbridge Livery Weekend, the Annual Golf Day at Frilford Heath on 14th June, The Glassellers' Company Dinner and a visit to HMS SULTAN.

One notable feature of the Awards Dinner was the first presentation of the Baroness Platt of Writtle Engineering Award. Baroness Platt, a

distinguished engineer and a great champion for 'Women into Science and Engineering' had become a Liveryman in July 1988 and joined the Court in 1996. She was particularly keen to promote the cause of Incorporated Engineers and had made a generous donation to kick-start a new award. Court Assistant Dr. Philip Hawtin was the Trustee of a small Charitable Trust Fund which could no longer meet the requirements of the original donors and so, with the agreement of our Charitable Trust Fund, he had approached the Charity Commission to allow the funds to be transferred into the new award. At the same time, the Middle Warden, Ted Willmott, approached the Dulverton Trust for further funds and the subsequent grant enabled the new Award to be adequately funded. It gave us all considerable pleasure to see Beryl Platt make the first award which also recognises her very considerable contributions both to the profession and to the Company.



On 29th May 2002, the Master and I signed the Lease for our new office in Wax Chandlers' Hall and we formally took possession on 5th June. Under the terms of the lease, we are entitled to fly our flag outside the Hall when we have major functions but we didn't have a flag. Sir William Barlow generously offered to fund the purchase of a flag and the Beadle of Wax Chandlers' Company supplied the dimensions – it had to be the same size as theirs so the halyards fitted. We decided to use the company shield in gold on a blue background (the Company colours) and when it was delivered to my home it looked enormous. On 9th July 2002, we held a Reception at Wax Chandlers' Hall so that everyone could see our new home but prior to entering the building, we assembled opposite to witness the unfurling of our flag. In fact the size was just right and it was a great moment to see us with a physical presence in the City. We also have the right to display our Grant of Arms and Grant of Letters Patent in the Court Room so it was good to see these displayed rather than locked away in the vaults. Looking back, I think all those associated with the move to Wax Chandlers' Hall now realised what a good decision we made.

Our flag outside Wax Chandlers' Hall

On 30th May, the Master and Andrew Jackson with their wives Ruth and Christine viewed the new window in Guildhall and were very pleased with the result. However a problem then arose when Busts of eminent Victorians were placed in front of the new windows. The Curator maintained the gallery had been designed to house these busts which effectively obscured many of the features of the windows. It is true to say all five Livery Companies involved were 'not pleased' so using my position as President of the Fellowship of Clerks I convened a luncheon meeting of the Clerks of the Companies involved, the Director of the Guildhall, Art Gallery, the Chairman of the Art Gallery Committee and another member of that Committee. By the end of the meeting, the Gallery Director agreed to try and find new locations for the Busts which did eventually happen.



On 20th February 2003, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh came to Guildhall to formally unveil the windows which represent the Arms of the Gardeners' Company, the Shipwrights' Company, The Guild of Air Pilots & Air Navigators', the Engineers' Company and the Environmental Cleaners' Company. With the exception of the Gardeners' Company who are associated with the Prince of Wales, Prince Phillip holds an office in all the other Companies.

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh with the Master and Ruth Cousins at the unveiling of the Guildhall windows.

On 10th July 2002, the Annual Young Entrepreneurs Exhibition was held at St. James's Palace once again supported by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh. As Prince Phillip had indicated he could no longer make an annual commitment, his Private Secretary suggested we might talk to the Earl of Wessex and accordingly Gordon Cockburn, the scheme's Director at Surrey SATRO, and I had a meeting with Prince Edward at Bagshot Park and he subsequently attended the Exhibition held at 1 Carlton House Terrace in June 2003 but this was to be the last time we were directly involved with this scheme.

On 2nd August, Raymond and Ruth organised a visit to Kew Gardens with particular emphasis on the work of the Education Department. The weather was glorious and everyone had a most relaxed, informative and enjoyable afternoon. One of the Liverymen attending this event was Air Vice-Marshal Graham Skinner but only a few of us knew he was one of the short-listed candidates for Clerk. On 25th September, another visit organised by the Master to the Dulwich Art Gallery with which he had been connected for many years and a further visit to the Wildlife and Wetlands Centre at Barnes. The Master's aim had been to have a series of interesting 'low cost' visits and he certainly succeeded.

On 9th September, the Master and I attended a reception in the Mansion House to mark the launch of Sir Francis McWilliams' book "Pray silence for Jock Whittington". We all knew Frank had had a very interesting a varied career culminating in his year as Lord Mayor but his book was very much an eye-opener. I earlier made reference to the fact the only mention Stephen and I get in the book is associated with a 'disaster' of a dinner! The Ladies Lunch was held in the new Haberdashers' Hall on 8th November when Ruth's guest, the Principal of the Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham College, reflected one of her particular interests. And at the Wardens Lecture Dinner on 20th November the speaker was the Junior Warden, Dr. Robert Hawley.

By September, the final shortlist for the position as Clerk had been agreed by the Master, the Immediate Past

Master, Andrew Jackson and the Senior Warden Sir David Davies and we started to interview the candidates. The Court had always had a preference for a member of the Company but we felt this might be too restricting and unrealistic and so the job specification had been more widely drawn. Nevertheless amongst some strong candidates, Graham Skinner stood out, because as a Liveryman, he was already dedicated to the Company and its aims and objectives. The Panel had no hesitation in offering Graham the position which received unanimous Court approval at the October meeting of the Court.

My time as Clerk was rapidly coming to an end and my final event was to be the Annual Carol Service in the Tower of London with dinner at Clothworkers' Hall. At the dinner, I was fortunate to be surrounded by friends and colleagues from both the City and beyond although I found it a very emotional occasion particularly when I handed over my badge of office to the Master. The Master made some very complementary remarks and presented me with a beautiful silver sauce boat specially made by Graham Stewart of Dunblane and a book containing many messages of goodwill from members of the Company; both of which are prized possessions. It was a memorable way to complete nearly 17 years of service.

A few weeks earlier I had received a letter from the Prime Minister's Office informing me the Prime Minister was recommending the award of an MBE in the New Year's Honours List. Only Mary knew and I would dearly have liked to mention it at the dinner as the citation for the award was "Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Engineers – For services to engineering". Overall it was a great end to the year and to my time as Clerk.

Now just an Assistant, I attended the Court Meeting on 7th January 2003 when Graham was formally installed as Clerk although he had technically started on 1st January. It was a strange experience sitting down the Court Table having never ever sat anywhere else except beside the Master. On 23rd January, the Master and Ruth hosted a dinner at Wax Chandlers' Hall for the Wardens, the 'Late' Clerk, the new Clerk and their wives and this 'Masters Dinner' has also now become a regular feature of the annual programme. The Winter Dinner at Goldsmiths' Hall, when the Bishop of Southwark was the Principal Guest, also seemed strange as Mary and I had to queue to be received; something we hadn't done at a Company event since 1986. The 13th February was the day of my Investiture at Buckingham Palace and afterwards we returned to the City for a Luncheon at Wax Chandlers' Hall at which I was delighted the Master and Ruth could join us together with the Beadle and other members of our family. It seemed right to celebrate in our new home and in the City rather than the West End.

All too soon this momentous year was drawing to a close signalled by the Election Court Meeting and Dinner on 4th March 2003 held for the last time at the City of London Club. From now on this event would be at Wax Chandlers' Hall. At this meeting, Sir David Davies was elected Master and I was elected as the new Junior Warden. During the reception, the Master-elect asked Len Weaver and me if we could go back to the Clerk to the Privy Council and see if we could make progress on the Grant of a Royal Charter.

As usual, the final event of the year was the Out-of-Town Meeting which was to be held in Tours, France from 10th to 13th April 2003. With very limited French, I was delighted this was one event I didn't have to organise and it also helped that Ruth and Raymond had a French speaking friend with a property in the area. Many of us travelled by Eurostar to Lille changing to another train to Tours and, of course, arriving on time. The programme followed the now traditional pattern with an informal dinner on the Thursday evening in the Hotel de L'Univers followed by visits, lunches and dinners over the next two days. The visits included a The Chinon Nuclear Power Station, L'Abbaye Royale de Fontevraud, The Chateau of Chinon and The Wine Cave of Messrs Couly-Dutheil in Chinon on the first day. On Saturday there were visits to Le Clos-Luce – Leonardo da Vinci's House and the Chateau Royal D'Amboise followed by Lunch at La Bezardiere so ensuring we had superb food and wine throughout. On the Saturday evening we were treated to a meal *par excellence* in Les Caves de la Bonne Dame in Vouvray during which we were entertained by Gypsy musicians serenading us throughout the meal. As was written at the time, what better way could there have been to end a "sensational tour of all Tours"? It certainly was the crowning glory of a wonderful three days in the Loire Region.

Chapter 20 2003 – 2004

Master: Sir David Davies CBE FRS FREng
Wardens: Major General E G Willmott CB OBE, Dr. Robert Hawley CBE FREng FRSE
& Commander Bryan Gibson MBE Royal Navy.



Our new Master, Sir David Davies, had held many senior engineering appointments including Vice Chancellor Loughborough University, Chief Scientific Advisor to the Ministry of Defence and lately President of the Royal Academy of Engineering. Den Davies was the third Master to have been President of the Royal Academy, his predecessors including Past Master Sir Denis Rooke and Past Master Sir William Barlow. The year started with the Installation & Awards Dinner being held in Merchant Taylors' Hall on 29th April 2003 with the principal guest and speaker being Sir Malcolm Pledger, Chief of Defence Logistics.

This year marked the 20th Anniversary of the founding of the Company and the Grant of Letters Patent as a Livery Company. As part of the celebrations on 10th July 2003, we had a visit from the HRH Duke of Kent for a briefing on the history and progress of the Company and to allow him to inspect our facilities and offices in Wax Chandlers Hall.

The Duke had been a Liveryman since July 1995 and a Court Assistant since April 1996 and although not a frequent attendee he had always taken a great interest in the activities of the Company. During the discussions, we briefed The Duke on a possible application for a Royal Charter as a meeting with the Privy Council was already arranged for 1st August. We were not to know then that only 9 months later His Royal Highness would be presenting our Charter to the Master on behalf of Her Majesty The Queen.

On 18th June 2003, the Master organised a Musical Evening in St. Paul's Cathedral which combined superb singing and organ music interspersed with talks on the history of the Cathedral as we moved to different parts of the building. The final talk before a buffet Supper in the Crypt, took place in the Chapel of the Excellent Order of the British Empire and it was interesting to note that the Master, Wardens and the Clerk all held appointments within the Order.

Our 10th Anniversary celebration included a visit to Ironbridge so it seemed natural that as part of our 20th Anniversary Celebrations, we should return there for a Livery weekend between 13th & 14th September 2003. The weekend included visits to the Ironbridge sites as well as me giving a talk on the history of the Company. There was a formal Livery Dinner in the old Engine shed at Coalbrookdale preceded with a reception in Enguinity which gave everyone an opportunity to play with the exhibits. On the Sunday morning a Church Service conducted by the Honorary Chaplain was held in the Covered Bays at Coalbrookdale. The Master also used this occasion to launch an appeal for additional funds for our Charitable Trust.

The Annual Banquet was held in the Mansion House on 22nd October when the principal guest and speaker was John Uff CBE QC FREng who subsequently became a Liveryman of the Company. On 29th October 2003, the Ladies Luncheon was held for the first time in Wax Chandlers' Hall when, before the lunch, the Clerk to the Wax Chandler's Company briefly outlined the history of the Hall. The guest speaker was Lady (Sally) Oliver who talked about her year as Lady Mayoress. Our new home, being so close to Guildhall, provided an excellent advantage point at which to view the Lord Mayor's Show and many Liverymen and their guests took the opportunity of coming up to London for the day and joining in a buffet Lunch in the Hall. A number of Liverymen then went off to the Riviera Restaurant on the South Bank to watch the fireworks display and this has since become part of the annual programme.

On 12th November, the Warden's Lecture was given by me as Junior Warden and I choose as the title "Engineering a Company 2" meaning I had also been involved in the development of the Company as well continuing the story from where Raymond Cousins left off in his 1999 lecture. Much of the research for that lecture has come in very useful when writing this account.



Since the beginning, it had been the custom to engrave the name of each Master on the back of one of the links of the 'gold collar' worn by the Master but we were rapidly running out of space. Each of the gold rectangular links has the Ironbridge engraved on the front and were strung end to end. The Master proposed that as his gift to the Company, the links should be turned through 90 degrees and a further 20 links inserted so giving room for at least the names of 40 Masters. This has, in practice, made the collar look even more attractive and it now hangs very much better. At the Carol Service in the Tower of London in December, and subsequent dinner at Apothecaries' Hall, the Master was able to wear the re-designed collar for the first time. Yet another generous gift which has once again enhanced our treasures.

The original gold chain above and with the additional links below.

The Winter Livery Dinner on 28th January 2004 lived up to its name with heavy snow falling that evening. This didn't defer those attending in Ironmongers' Hall where the principal guest was Alderman and Sheriff Nick Ansty. On 4th February the 2004 Bridge Lecture at the City University was given by John Armit CBE, the Chief Executive of Network Rail and the Election Court Meeting and Dinner were held at Wax Chandlers' Hall on 2nd March 2004.

Looking back over the year the Master recalls his initiatives during the year: *"The Financial Appeal which I started during the weekend at Ironbridge raised over £30,000 over the year. During the year the contacts I made with the Red R organisation, resulted in the Company becoming a sponsor to Red R.*

We also set up an initiative to attract more members (preferably younger members). This resulted in changing the criteria for becoming a Freeman of the Company (this can now be achieved on the basis of membership of an Engineering Institution not Fellowship). We also had some publicity for this change, which produced over 30 applications for joining the Company.

The year also saw the decision to petition the Queen for a Royal Charter and setting up a small working party of two (Bryan Gibson and Len Weaver) to take the process forward. This was most successful and surprisingly rapid, the Royal Charter being handed to me as Master at the very end of my Master's year by H.R.H. The Duke of Kent, representing HM The Queen. At the same ceremony we also gave the position of Honorary Liveryman of the Company to Sir Peter Gadsden - our Founder Master".

The Annual Livery Weekend/Out-of-Town meeting was held from 1st to 4th April based on the Hilton Hotel in Cardiff. Events included a Livery Dinner in the National Museum of Wales (guests included the Vice Chancellor of Cardiff University, who also spoke, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Glamorgan, the Lord Mayor of Cardiff and representatives of the Welsh Livery Guild). Musical entertainment was provided

by a Male Voice Choir. Visits included the Cardiff Bay development, the National Folk Museum of Wales and the Newport Transporter Bridge. As a special concession, the Master and many other intrepid members and guests were allowed to climb up one tower of the Transporter Bridge and then walked across the river before descending on the other side; I'm told all those who managed the climb thoroughly enjoyed the experience. In the evening, dinner in the magnificent surroundings of Cardiff Castle included a talk on the history of the Castle. The weekend ended with a Service in Llandaff Cathedral. On 18th April 2004, members of the Court and their Ladies travelled to Danehill in Sussex for a lunch given by Sir David and Lady Davies at their home.

As the Master states above the progress towards a Royal Charter moved with astonishing speed. We had one advantage in that the Court of Aldermen had already given their approval in 1993 to the Company seeking a Royal Charter 'when the time was deemed right' so this was one hurdle we didn't have to surmount. At our meeting with the Clerk to the Privy Council, Alex Galloway, on 1st August, Len Weaver and I were given the 'green' light to submit a Petition and Draft Charter as soon as possible. Having been involved with a number of Royal Charters during my career, I was well aware of the work involved particularly as we were starting from scratch. My initial assumption was that we needed to involve our lawyers but Alex maintained I had sufficient experience to draft the Charter, the Ordinances and the Regulations. Len Weaver was to work on the wording of the Petition which is particularly important as this sets out in detail the reasons for requesting the grant of a Charter, the history and financial status of the Company and also its aspirations for the future. At the start I had the wording of two existing Charters, the one granted to the Royal Academy of Engineering and an earlier one granted to The Institute of Materials. On closer study the Royal Academy Charter was a 'better fit' although our role as a Livery Company and connections with the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen needed to be inserted. The Ordinances were essentially based on those issued under our Grant of Letters Patent from the Lord Mayor but the Court did need to make a number of fundamental decisions. These included the position of Past Masters who had previously been able to remain on the Court almost indefinitely whereas now only the five holding office before the current Master would be full members of the Court. This resulted in a significant number of Past Masters becoming 'Past Master Emeritus'. Following best practice in corporate governance, the term of office of Court Assistants was restricted and the election of new Assistants was devolved to the Livery as a whole rather than just the Court. Provision also had to be made for a formal Annual General Meeting to be known as Common Hall in April each year at which the Master and Wardens would now be installed in public. Finally the position of the Clerk as Chief Executive of the Company was formalised. Looking back, I am surprised how readily the Court accepted what were major changes to the way the Company was run.

We also needed to consider the relationship with our Charitable Trust Fund. One early option was to combine both the Company and the Trust into a single Chartered Charitable body but early discussions with the Charity Commission indicated they would prefer us to retain the 'status quo' of two separate entities. The Privy Council had asked if we could submit the Petition and Draft Charter and Ordinances by the beginning of December only 4 months after our meeting with the Clerk and this initially seemed impossible. However the Petition was formally sealed by the Master, Wardens and Clerk by the end of November and the documents sent to the Privy Council. At the meeting of the Privy Council on the 10th December, the Petition was received and referred to the Committee of the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council for their consideration. On 22nd January 2004, Len Weaver, Graham Skinner and I had a formal meeting with the Charity Commission at which we received their approval for the new arrangements. The draft Charter and Ordinances also had to be approved by the Attorney General who only made one very minor change which we were happy to accept. We now awaited the meeting of the Privy Council to be held at 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday 11th February and it was just after 7.00 p.m. when the Deputy Clerk to the Council rang with the news that HM The Queen had approved the grant of the Charter.

It wasn't yet quite over as I now had to 'proof' the final wording of the Charter and Ordinances before they were printed on vellum and sealed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom. We had arranged for the actual Charter to be presented by HRH The Duke of Kent on behalf of Her Majesty at the Installation Court meeting to be held at Merchant Taylors' Hall on 27th April 2004 and although we had all done our work, it

seemed an age before Graham received the news the Charter had finally been sealed by the Crown Office and he was only able to collect the document the day before the presentation. As part of the Charter, the First Annex gives the names of the Master and Wardens in office at the time of its grant and it now gives me great satisfaction to know I'm a part of this document.



The Ceremony on the 27th April was a glittering occasion and it was a pleasure to see so many members of the Company and guests from other Livery Companies as The Duke of Kent handed over the Royal Charter to the Master. After nearly 21 years since our formation we had truly come of age. Interestingly, the Master and Wardens now became the last officers of the 'old' company and immediately the first officers of The Worship Company of Engineers incorporated by Royal Charter.

The Master commented *"We are proud to be one of the very few modern Livery Companies to have received a Royal Charter. It also recognises the growing importance of the profession of engineering and its recognition both in the City of London and worldwide. Since all of the Liverymen of our Company are required to be Fellows of one of the major engineering institutions, this brings us closer to the original concept of the earlier Livery Guilds formed many centuries ago"*.

However our time in office lasted only a few minutes as the Installation Court then saw the Installation of Major General E (Ted) G Willmott CB OBE as the new Master with Wardens, Dr. R Hawley CBE FREng FRSE, Commander Bryan Gibson MBE Royal Navy and Rear Admiral David

Bawtree CB DL. It was also very fitting that at this meeting the Founder Master Sir Peter Gadsden GBE AC FREng was made an Honorary Liveryman in recognition of all his services to the Company since its formation.

And so ended the Worshipful Company of Engineers as a Livery Company incorporated by Letters Patent and a new beginning as a Livery Company incorporated by Royal Charter.



The 'new' Master with The Duke of Kent, Immediate Past Master, the Wardens, Clerk and the Chaplain shortly after the Installation of the new officers under the Royal Charter

Chapter 21 2004-2005

Master: Major General E (Ted) G Willmott CB OBE
Wardens: Dr. Robert Hawley CBE FEng FRSE, Commander Bryan Gibson MBE RN
& Rear Admiral David Bawtree CB DL



Major General Ted Willmott's first contact with the Company had been the Dinner in Armourers' Hall in January 1987 when he was one of 17 Generals present to witness the exchange of silver between the Company and the Corps of Royal Engineers. He subsequently became a Freeman and Liveryman in 1991 and was appointed to the Court in 1994. Following the Presentation of the Royal Charter, Ted was duly installed as Master and then presided at the Installation and Awards Dinner held in Merchant Taylors' Hall. In Ted's own words *"As is fitting for a sapper, the year began with a bang and ended with a bang."*

The installation ceremony was graced with the presence of his Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, Honorary Liveryman, who had earlier presented the Royal Charter to the outgoing Master, Sir David Davies. His Royal Highness circulated amongst liveryman and their guests, attended the Installation Dinner and presented the prizes and awards.

Later, the Comptroller and Auditor General, Sir John Bourn, entertained us with fascinating insights into the world of audit at the level of government."

As part of the procession into dinner, the Clerk held on high the new Charter. With over 250 members and guests this was our largest event for many years. At the dinner The Duke said "The Grant of a Royal Charter of Incorporation by Her Majesty the Queen recognises your past achievements but is much more an encouragement for the future work of the Engineers' Company".

On the day after the Installation Dinner, the Past Master's and Warden's Ladies gathered at Wax Chandlers' Hall for the Brooch Luncheon when the Lady (Jenna) Davies handed the Master's Ladies Brooch to Mrs. Sally Willmott. This is always a most happy and relaxed occasion when Past Masters' ladies enjoy the privilege of using their husband's silver goblets and wearing their Past Masters lady's badges. The previous evening was the first occasion when wives and guests had been able to witness the installation of the Master and Wardens into office so there was even more than usual to talk about!

The grant of a Royal Charter produced a number of interesting 'matters for discussion'. Under the Charter, our Grant of Arms was transferred to the new Company indicating continuity of the 94th Livery Company of the City of London. We all agreed the new Master should be considered, therefore, as the 21st Master of the Company whereas technically he was the 2nd Master of the new legal entity. For the Clerk, however, the change wasn't just a matter of semantics as he had to arrange for the financial accounts of the old company to be signed off, and bank accounts, terms of employment, VAT registration, Income Tax records all having to be changed. The Master and the Clerk now also had to consider how to implement other aspects of the governance of the Company which involved new procedures for the election of Court Assistants and an annual Common Hall open to all members of the Company but needless to say all this happened in a smooth and seamless way.

The Annual Court and Ladies' Dinner was held in Wax Chandlers' Hall on 13th July 2004 and during the reception, the Chief Commoner, Mr. Tom Jackson, unveiled the newly framed Royal Charter now displayed in the Court Room of the Hall. This replaced the Letters Patent granted in 1983 which was moved to the company's office on the 3rd floor. The next day on 14th July there was a visit to the Chelsea Physic Garden which had been organised by Ted and Sally Willmott. Known as London's secret garden, the four walled

areas are the original botanic and nursery gardens which have survived urban development. Glorious weather and very knowledgeable guides ensured a fascinating and educationally stimulating afternoon.

A hectic week continued on 15th July when the Master and other members of the Company joined many other guests at St. James's Palace for the annual Young Entrepreneurs Exhibition in the presence of HRH The Duke of Kent.

On 10th September 2004, the Late Summer Outing was to the Firepower Museum at Woolwich Arsenal, reflecting the Master's theme "Engines of War". As a former member of the Ordnance Board, this visit, whilst a reflection of the Master's military interests, also proved to be of great interest to everyone who attended. Following an introductory video and the very exciting "Field of Fire" demonstration we moved through the history and some of the technology of guns and artillery. After lunch, we were able to view a number of pieces of artillery bringing us up to the present day. One of the major attractions of a Livery Company is the wide range of visits which are initiated by successive Masters and which over the years have covered so many facets of engineering. On 6th October the Ladies' Lunch was held in Wax Chandlers' Hall when the guest speaker, Ms. Jennifer Bates, the internationally famous organist, gave a talk entitled "A Funny thing happened - Amusing anecdotes of a life in and out of the organ loft". Sally had also arranged a visit to the Annual Goldsmiths' Hall Winter Fair being held in the building next door and many of those attending took the opportunity for a little 'window-shopping'.

The Master's theme was maintained through the banquet in the Mansion House in the presence of the Lord Mayor locum tenens, Sir Richard Nichols who was Honorary Colonel of the TA London Engineer Regiment (responsible for bomb disposal) having earlier taken over from the Master in 1998. Afterwards the former Master General of Ordnance, Chief Royal Engineer and Honorary Liveryman, General Sir Hugh Beech spoke.

On 13th November, members of the Company once again used the advantage of having our office in Wax Chandlers' Hall to view the Lord Mayor's Show procession. After the parade, members were able to warm up over a buffet lunch in the Hall with members of the Wax Chandlers' Company. The day was rounded off when Engineers and their partners met up at the Riverside Restaurant on the South Bank to watch the magnificent Fireworks display which marks the culmination of Lord Mayor's Day for another year.

The Wardens' Lecture Dinner at Wax Chandlers' Hall on 10th November gave the Junior Warden, Rear Admiral David Bawtree, an opportunity to talk about one of his particular interests under the title "Education with Challenge". David, with many others, had been promoting the creation of a Sail Training Ship which could also double as a replacement for the Royal Yacht so creating a challenging and life altering experience for many young people in the seafaring traditions of the Country. David certainly created enthusiasm for the project and has since been asked to repeat his talk to other Livery Companies.

For many years, it had been the tradition for the Master to entertain all his predecessors to dinner in November at which he could not only thank them for their support but also seek their views on which Court Assistants should be considered as potential Masters and hence the nomination of a new Junior Warden. The new procedures under the Royal Charter had established a Nominations Committee with a specific remit to nominate a Junior Warden having taken the advice of the Past Masters. The Past Master's Dinner had now become a formal event within the Company's calendar and this November was the first time they met in their new role. The dinner also gives the Master the opportunity to seek the views of Past Master's on a wide range of issues affecting the Company. The Clerk is in attendance at these dinners to provide any additional information that is required and although no minutes are taken, the Master writes to all Past Masters, including those not present, after the dinner with a summary of any recommendations.

2004 ended in the traditional way with our Carol Service in the Chapel Royal of St. Peter ad Vincula at the Tower of London followed by dinner in Clothworkers' Hall. The Master in giving his 'Seasonal Greeting' took the opportunity to remind members of the changes which were taking place in the way the Company

conducts its business. In particular, the Company would now be holding an Annual General Meeting (to be known as Common Hall) at which an Annual Report would be presented for the first time. In addition, newly elected Assistants were to be voted into office following the installation of the Master and Wardens. The Master hoped everyone would fully participate in the new procedures.

As detailed in the previous chapters, the Company's annual programme of events had evolved over the years and a clear pattern had emerged. However certain times of the year were suffering from event overload with the very popular Carol Service and Dinner affecting attendance at the Winter Livery Dinner which was only a few weeks later. The new arrangements for an April Common Hall followed by the Installation & Awards Dinner was going to increase the load on the office which was already heavily involved in the Out-of-Town meeting usually only two weeks before the installation. The Master, Clerk and the Programme Committee therefore carried out a major review of all our events. The outcome of these deliberations was a recommendation to move the Out-of-Town meeting from April to September and to create a completely separate Awards Dinner in July. This would leave the Installation Dinner as a free-standing event and by moving the administration of the awards to later in the year would allow the Clerk and Beadle to concentrate on the arrangements for Common Hall, election of Court Assistants and the installation of the new Master and Wardens. July had usually been the time for a Court and Ladies Dinner but this would be moved, in 2006, to January and there would no longer be a Winter Livery Dinner. All the recommendations were agreed by the Court and the Clerk was invited to propose ways of implementing the changes. So in January 2005, instead of the Winter Livery Dinner and as a one-off event, there was a Lecture Meeting and Buffet Supper at Wax Chandlers' Hall. The lecturer was Peter Lennard, the Founder of the London Bridge Museum and Educational Trust who gave a lecture on the history of London Bridge. The Founder Master was Chairman of the Trust and Court Assistant, the late Leonard Groome, was as City Engineer involved in the sale of the old London Bridge to Lake Havasu City in 1973. After the lecture Len's son, Liveryman Richard Groome, presented some photographs and artefacts to Peter Lennard for the Museum.

Previously the Election Court Dinner had received a report from the Master on his year in office but as this was now going to be part of Common Hall in April, the main part of the dinner held at Wax Chandlers' Hall on 1st March 2005 was to announce the election of the next Master, Dr. Robert Hawley CBE FREng FRSE and to introduce the Master-elect to the Livery.

At the beginning of the year the Clerk had called for nominations for new Court Assistants as these were now to be elected by the whole Livery. On the recommendation of the Nominations Committee, the Court had agreed four new Assistants should be elected at the 2005 AGM and considerable work had gone into designing the appropriate paperwork. However when the Nominations Committee met in February to agree the voting procedure a new problem had arisen. The call for nominations had created considerable interest and there were seven candidates for the four vacancies. Whilst being delighted so many Liverymen were interested in joining the Court, it would have been possible for all those elected to have come from the same engineering discipline and this would have unbalanced the Court contrary to one of the requirements of the Royal Charter to maintain a balance between all the major branches of engineering. The Master, as Chairman of the Committee, and the Clerk eventually came up with a plan which grouped the candidates by discipline and placed restrictions on the number to be elected from each group. This did, however, involve a fairly complicated ballot paper and unfortunately not every Liveryman followed the instructions so there a number of spoilt papers which may have affected the final result. We gained a lot of experience from this first election and future years went much more smoothly.

The Clerk and Beadle also had to finalise all the details of the Out-of-Town Meeting which was being based in Chatham from 7th to 10th April 2005. After the usual informal dinner on the Thursday evening, we gathered at the Tri-service Defence Explosive Ordnance Disposal School although most of us were more concerned about the cold, wet and windy weather rather than the prospect of exploding bombs. After displays of land mine clearance and deep water diving equipment we moved into the relative warmth of the museum hall where the techniques of air dropped weapons were demonstrated. The most impressive

memory of the visit was the knowledge, dedication and courage of all the personnel at the School. Lunch was followed by a visit to the Royal Engineers Museum: an organisation to which our Charitable Trust Fund has made a number of donations over the years and the day's visits concluded with a briefing from the Engineer in Chief (Army). In the evening, a Livery Dinner was held in the splendid surroundings of the Royal Engineers' Headquarters Mess with the Reception being in the "Conservatory" with an opportunity to study the magnificent paintings and silver. During and after dinner we enjoyed a selection of music played by the Salon Orchestra of the Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers; a group who have done so much to enhance are Livery Dinners over many years. It obviously gave the Master particular pleasure to preside at a Dinner in his own Service Mess and also to have as his principal guest, the Chief Royal Engineer and Honorary Liveryman, the Chief of Defence Logistics, General Sir Kevin O'Donoghue.

The Saturday morning was spent exploring Historic Rochester before lunch in the garden of the Commissioners' House within the Historic Dockyard during which the Director outlined the history of the site and the many attractions on offer including the Ropery and the Mast House and Loft which includes the 'Wooden Walls' exhibition. I was personally much impressed by the many developments which had occurred since my earlier visits when the dockyard was being converted into a museum and visitor attraction. The day concluded with a Dinner in Leeds Castle which was preceded by a tour of the house, a former residence of King Henry VIII lavishly restored on recent years by the last private owner Lady Baillie. The out-of-Town weekend concluded on Sunday morning with a Church Service in St. Barbara's Garrison Church close to Brompton Barracks. This was an appropriate setting as St. Barbara is the patron saint of the Royal Engineers and also the patron saint of mining and metallurgical engineers. We all finally said our farewells over a curry lunch in the Royal Engineers' Mess. *To quote the Master "With a bang, the Master's year ended.*



The Engineer's Office door and carved Coat of Arms

The Master's gift was a new door for our office at Wax Chandlers' Hall which was designed and made by students of the Building Craft College. The door has been decorated by a wood carving of the Company's Coat of Arms made by

Maureen Midwinter, a trained wood carver, with the help of her husband, Liveryman Professor John Midwinter. The carving in lime is mounted on a mahogany base and took two years to complete. We all had a chance to admire her work when she presented it to the Master at the Dinner in Leeds Castle and the door with carving were officially opened on 12th July 2005 and has been much admired ever since.

Ted Willmott had always taken an interest in the work of the Charitable Trust Fund and as already mentioned had been instrumental in obtaining a substantial grant to enhance the funding for the Baroness of Platt of Writtle Engineering Award. *The Master recalls "Charitable spending was limited by the constraints imposed by the downturn in stock market values. I continued the efforts of my predecessors to engage all the livery in this worthy activity and increased contributions to the charitable funds"*. During his year, Ted oversaw the production of a set of aims and objectives for the Trust and initiated a ten-year plan to ensure all the awards would be properly funded. His work has proved invaluable in the years that followed and has placed the Charitable Trust Fund on a much firmer base than previously. Since the earliest days of the Company, the Master has been an ex-officio Trustee of the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Development Trust but the lack of continuity and the Master's other commitments meant many Master's had not been able to play as full part in meetings at Ironbridge as they would have wished. Ted, and his predecessor Sir Den Davies, had therefore suggested to both the Court and the Development Trust that a senior member of the Court be appointed as a Trustee for a three year period renewable for a further three year period if appropriate. Ted, having raised the matter with the other Ironbridge Trustees, then asked me if I would accept appointment and, with the subsequent agreement of the Court, I become the Company's representative in March 2005.

Ted's last function as Master was to preside at the first Common Hall held by the Company at Merchant Taylors' Hall on 26th April 2005. Before opening the formal proceedings, the Master clothed a number of new Liverymen; something which had been done in public a year earlier and had proved a popular innovation. In his address the Master said *"Our governance arrangements under our new Royal Charter are modern and conform to current standards for good corporate governance which should be transparent and accountable to you the Livery. So today we have Common Hall, the first Annual General Meeting of the company. We have already held elections for new Court Assistants and today you will hear the result."*

Having presented his Annual report, the Master also gave a report on the activities of the Charitable Trust Fund. This is a separate legal entity registered with the Charity Commission and although not technically part of the AGM, the Court has asked that the Master should, each year, update the Livery on this important aspect of the work of Livery Companies. Once the Annual Report and accounts had been formally approved, the results of the elections for new Court Assistants, which had been earlier confirmed by the Court, were announced. Finally Ted invested the Master-elect with the Master's gown and chain and badge of office and Dr. Robert Hawley CBE FREng FRSE took the chair as the 22nd Master of the Company. Common Hall concluded with the new Master installing his Wardens and then formally admitting the newly elected Assistants to the Court. For nearly seventeen years, I had always been seated, at all formal meetings of the Court, on the Master's immediate left but now as Senior Warden I was seated on the Master's immediate right; a very strange feeling but it is now time for the next chapter.

Chapter 22 2005 -2006

Master: Dr. Robert Hawley CBE DSc FEng FRSE
Wardens: Commander Bryan Gibson MBE RN, Rear Admiral David Bawtree CB DL
& Mr. A (Tony) Roche FEng



I have never ceased to be amazed by how often at Livery events throughout the City you meet former friends, colleagues and acquaintances which is one of the joys of the being a Liveryman. Within the Engineers Company, I had known Bob Hawley for over 20 years but I wasn't aware our paths had ever crossed previously. Early in his year when Bob and I were talking in the office, we discovered we had, for a few years in the 1950's, lived only a few hundred yards apart in Wallasey on the Wirral. These two erstwhile Dick Whittingtons both left the Wirral at about the same time with Bob's journey taking him via the North East whereas mine was via Manchester and Plymouth until we both reached this great city. It is, however, an increasing quirk of fate that two Old Wallaseyans should half a century later come together as successive Masters of a London Livery Company.

Bob's first event was to preside at the Installation Dinner at Merchant Taylor's Hall when the principal speaker was Professor Sir Christopher Frayling, the Chairman of the Arts Council and Rector and Vice Provost of the Royal College of Art in London. Amongst the guests were Alderman David and Mrs Tessa Brewer. David was the Senior Alderman below the Chair and became Lord Mayor later in the year but this dinner provided an excellent opportunity for Mary and I to get to know both he and Tessa with whom we were subsequently to share many future events. The day after the Installation, Sally Willmott presided at the Brooch Luncheon at which she handed over the Master's Lady's Brooch to Pamela Hawley.

One of the new Master's great interests is Engineering and the Arts and this was reflected in our first visit of the new year which was to the Guildhall Art Gallery. We were shown around the gallery by the Curator, Vivien Knight, whose descriptive powers and erudition really brought the pictures to life. The tour also included visits to the Old Library, the Chief Commoners' Parlour and the Great Hall before retiring to Wax Chandlers' Hall for much needed sustenance.

On 12th June, Court Assistant, Penny Taylor, organised an informal Lunch for members and their partners at the Mill House Hotel in Kingham near Stow-on-the-Wold. Members travelled considerable distances to attend with some extending their visit to the Cotswolds by staying for the weekend. This was a new initiative which was so enjoyed by all those who attended that Penny was asked to organise further events at the same venue.

On 22nd June, members of the Company joined with members of the Water Conservators' Company for a River Cruise and visit to the Thames Barrier. Embarking from Lambeth Pier on a glorious summer's day, we were able to see the sheer amount of residential development of all styles and all colours on both sides of the River from the Tower to beyond Canary Wharf. A group were then privileged to have a technical tour of the Barrier from Andy Bachelor, Tidal Defence Manager including the works below water level so we could see and appreciate the massive construction and machinery needed to operate the Barrier gates. Those unable to go on the technical tour enjoyed the Visitor Centre, gardens and general views before we all met up again for the return cruise back to Lambeth. I know that I and many other members of the Company appreciate the opportunity which these visits give to see modern engineering at its best particularly when you have an enthusiastic and knowledgeable guide.

The Annual Golf Day was held at Frilford Heath Golf Club on 8th July and although Bob Hawley was not a regular golfer, he revived his kit and seemed to enjoy the day as much as anyone. With 23 golfers and more attending for the evening dinner, this was the largest turn-out for many years and there was also some quality golf. This was the 4th year, the golf had been impeccably organised by Chris and Sylvia Price who now handed over the mantle to David Scahill who would organise the 2006 event.

For the first time, we held a separate Awards Dinner on 12th July 2005 in Haberdashers' Hall. This new Hall was completed in 2003 to design by Michael Hopkins and replaced a former Hall in Gresham, now replaced by a new office block almost opposite our offices in Wax Chandlers' Hall. Fine weather allowed us to enjoy a reception in the Courtyard before moving into the Livery Hall. The guest speaker was Dr. Geraldine Kenny-Wallace, Director of e-learning and Strategy, City & Guilds. In his speech the Master said *"The Awards Dinner is, for us, one of the highlights of the year when we celebrate the work of the Award Winners. Whose work covers an enormous range of activities. Those of you, who are engineers in the Armed Forces, enable our forces to live, move and secure peace at sea, on land and in the air. Your work uses very sophisticated modern technology. That technology created and developed by other engineers, civilians, working in research laboratories in industry and in our Universities. We also celebrate the other members of our large corporate body of engineers working in other sectors of the economy and education."*

The decision of the Court to move the Out-of-Town meeting to September meant that this year there would be two such events in the same calendar year. Much of the Master's professional life had been spent in Newcastle upon Tyne so the North East was an obvious choice for his weekend. Following tradition, the visit started with an informal dinner on Thursday 22nd September 2005 when everyone was issued with black, red lined umbrellas (thankfully they were hardly needed) and official Geordie Passports (wi a veesor). Friday 23rd September included visit to the Angel of the North, Robert Stephenson's Engine Works, the Gateshead Millennium Bridge (which the Master was allowed to open) and the Sage Music Centre. In the evening there was a Civic Dinner hosted by the Sheriff when guests were received by a Northumberland piper. The principal speaker was Lord Walton of Dechant a former Dean of Medicine at Newcastle University.

Saturday 24th September saw a visit to Bamburgh Castle of particular interest as it was restored in the 1890's by the first Baron Armstrong, an engineer and munitions magnate. This was followed by a visit to Alnwick Castle Garden in which the Duchess of Northumberland, with a most ambitious long term plan, has created a garden for the 21st Century where the elaborate water displays are driven from an underground pump room which proved of great interest to the engineers. The day ended with a dinner at Auckland Castle, the official home of the Bishops of Durham, with the meal being served in the Throne Room. The weekend concluded on Sunday 25th September with a Sung Eucharist in Durham Cathedral. Due to previous commitments in my home village where the Church was celebrating its 150th Anniversary (hardly worth mentioning when compared to the age of Durham Cathedral), this was the first Out-of-Town Event which Mary and I hadn't attended. Reading the subsequent reports in the Swordsman only confirmed just what an excellent weekend we had missed. The Master's own view was *"Our visit to the North East, with its great heritage of engineering, was a great success but it was not just history we saw, for example, Robert Stephenson's original workshop, but also modern engineering achievements, the construction of which were described to us by the engineers involved, such as the new Millennium Bridge across the Tyne and the Angel of the North."*

On 5th October 2005, Pamela Hawley presided at the Ladies Luncheon held in Wax Chandlers' Hall. Mary told me that, in her speech, Pamela commented that as the wife of an engineer she seemed to find their holidays somehow always involved power stations. The latest being the prototype Pebble Bed Reactor in South Africa and produced one of the pebbles to prove the point. Other ladies nodded in agreement clearly having similar 'engineering' holiday experiences. The guest speaker was Baroness (Pauline) Perry of Southwark a former Chief Inspector of Schools who had also worked in the House of Lords with Court Assistant Emeritus Baroness Platt of Writtle. Those attending were entertained by her description of the trials and triumphs of female members of the Upper House. This was followed on 9th October by a second

informal luncheon at Mill House Hotel near Stow-on-the-Wold which attracted an even greater attendance than the earlier event.

The Annual Banquet held in the Mansion House on 28th October 2005 was attended by The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor, Alderman Michael Savory, the Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs and their Ladies. The other principal guest and speaker was Alderman Sir Paul Newall who, like the Master, had close diplomatic connections with Korea which also explained the presence of the Korean Ambassador, Dr. Cho Yoon-Je. Reflecting the Master's close academic associations with the Universities, 5 Vice-Chancellors were amongst the guests together with the Masters and Prime wardens of nine Livery Companies. Space in this history does not allow for coverage of the many excellent speeches made at the Banquet and other major events by Masters and principal guests but these have usually been printed in full in editions of the Swordsman.

On 18th November, the Junior Warden, Mr. Tony Roche FREng, who is also a Vice President of Red-R gave a stimulating lecture on "The History and Work of RedR" of which the Engineers' Company is the only Livery Company to be a Patron. This was the first time the Warden's Lecture had been given at a Luncheon rather than at dinner and the change was deemed a success although it was agreed that, in future, the event should start earlier with the lecture before lunch rather than after. 2005 came to a close with the Annual Carol Service being held in the Tower of London on 14th December with dinner in Stationers' Hall. To minimise the number of coaches needed to transport everyone from the Tower to the Hall, the congregation was divided into two halves; the first party went to the waiting buses whilst the second party were given an opportunity to stay in the Chapel Royal with the Yeoman Verger. This led to a debate on who fared better, those with more time to drink and talk or those who were privileged to hear more of the remarkable history of the Tower and the Chapel.

In January, there was the Court and Ladies Dinner previously held in July each year but now moved to allow for the Awards Dinner. This has always been one of the more popular events in the Court year as it provides one of the few opportunities for members of the Court and their partners to meet together without official or other guests being present. An excellent time for the Court to get to know each other better.

The Master's two predecessors, Den Davies and Ted Willmott, had devoted much of their energies into revitalising the Charitable Trust Fund and Bob Hawley wanted to continue this work by introducing a new award for Environmental Engineering. Using his contacts in the City, he confidently predicted HSBC would come forward with £50,000.00 to fund this new award and was bitterly disappointed when this failed to materialise. However this set back simply galvanised Bob into action and he contacted a large number of his City contacts having first 'seeded' the new award with a personal donation. His perseverance paid off and he eventually raised nearly £140,000.00 for the Fiona & Nicholas Hawley Award for Environmental Engineering; the largest amount raised for a single award in the history of the Company.

In the Master's own words "During my year, and as Immediate Past Master, my greatest source of pride was to be able to persuade many major UK companies and a number of very good friends to donate sufficient money to set aside a large capital sum, the interest on which fund, each year, a substantial new company prize "The Fiona and Nicholas Hawley Award" for excellence in environmental engineering.

The first award was made in 2007 during our Annual Dinner at the Mansion House, when Fiona, who is a scientist, came from the USA and Nicholas, who is a chartered engineer, came from Hong Kong to attend. This prize meets three of the Companies objectives: To encourage interest in the use of engineering to improve the environment; To encourage young people in their engineering or scientific careers, and to alert major companies to the important role played by the company in the City and nationally.



The first "Fiona & Nicholas Award" presented in the Mansion House during the 2007 Annual Banquet



The Master introduces Dame Judith Mayhew Jonas who delivers the 2006 Bridge Lecture at City University

In February, Dame Judith Mayhew Jonas, a former Chairman of the City's Finance & Policy Committee and new Provost of Trinity College Cambridge gave the 2006 Bridge Lecture on "The Royal Opera House" which she is Chairman. This provided a fascinating insight into the work of the newly rebuilt House. The Master's year was, however, coming to its end heralded by the Election Court and Dinner on 28 February 2006. Following a Court Meeting at which the new Master and Wardens are elected, there is the Election Court Service previously held in St. Lawrence Jewry. However this year, because of non-availability, the Service was held in the Church of St. Vedast alias Foster very close to Wax Chandlers' Hall in Foster Lane. The Church is a delightful surprise almost hidden in a row of shops and the layout does allow the Master and Officers to more closely connect with all those present. My immediate reaction, having just been elected Master, was to decide we would hold the Service there again in 2007; a decision with which the Chaplain and Clerk thankfully concurred.

At the dinner, the Clerk formally introduces the Master-elect and the Wardens-elect to the Livery. My reactions are best summed up by an extract from my acceptance speech: *I know only too well the demands made on Masters and equally I know the enormous contributions made by each of my 22 predecessors. Our progress over the last 23 years has been phenomenal and each Master has played a significant part. Pamela and Bob Hawley have dedicated themselves during the last year to the Company and the contributions which Bob has secured for the Charitable Trust Fund through the new Hawley award represent the largest influx in funds to the Trust since it was established 22 years ago. As Clerk, the most usual comment I heard from every Master on election was "How do I follow that" and believe me I feel exactly that this evening*".

On 25th April, the Installation Court and Common Hall were held for the first time at Skinners' Hall. After a short general business meeting, the Court moved to the large Court Room to be joined by many Liverymen and guests. New Liverymen were invested in the Livery and welcomed into the Company and this was the first time the Clothing had been made entirely in public. Before every Clothing Ceremony, it is our tradition that the Clerk introduces each member of the Court individually to the new Liverymen. I know just what a strain this can be as names you have known for year suddenly elude you. The formal business of Common Hall started with Bob giving his annual report and seeking approval for the annual accounts.

The results of the ballot for new Assistants was then announced before the Master announced the results of the election for Master and then installed Commander Bryan Gibson MBE Royal Navy as Master for the year ensuing. I was then invited to take the chair before robing Bob Hawley in his Past Master's gown and investing him with his past Master's badge before which I said *"In the summer of 2000, Bob and I were standing on London Bridge waiting for the Master so that we could all exercise our right as Freemen of the City to drive sheep over the Bridge – an event organised by the then Lord Mayor in support of his charity. When our turn came, the Master was stuck somewhere in traffic and I still had his gown over my arm. I had to do something with it so I persuaded Bob to put it on but in the confusion no photographs of the occasion were ever forthcoming although Bob looked the part. However Bob during the last year when you correctly wore the gown in your own right you have done so with distinction and the Company has benefited from your leadership"*.

My first task as Master was to announce the results of the election for Wardens and install Rear Admiral David Bawtree, Tony Roche and Chris Price into office. To quote Chris Price it was a rather like entering Noah's Ark as two naval officers are followed by two former Presidents of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. Following the installation of newly elected Assistants, I, my new Wardens the Immediate Past Master and our wives withdrew for a quiet drink before the real work of the year began.

Bob Hawley has the last word *"Every master has and will continue to contribute to the well being of the Company and having been concerned about our declining numbers, I was delighted that in my year we were able to recruit and put into the system a considerable number of new Liverymen. So, in a small way I feel I was able to make good use of my contacts in Industry and the city to further the aims of the Company during my year of office"*.



A Company Treasure

A tie pin commissioned by Mrs June McWilliam for her husband, the Founder Middle Warden Robert McWilliam, on the founding of the Company in 1983 and presented to the Company after his death in 1984.

Chapter 23 2006 – 2007

Master: Commander Bryan Gibson MBE Royal Navy
Wardens: Rear Admiral David Bawtree CB DL, Mr. A (Tony) Roche FREng
& Mr F Chris Price FREng



For the previous 22 Chapters, I have been a spectator, albeit a fairly involved one, reporting on each Master's year. Now I was to see the Company from a different perspective as the 23rd Master. My first event was the Installation Dinner in Skinners' Hall and I was initially overwhelmed by the expressions of good will from Liverymen many of whom I had known for many years.

Mary and I chose the theme for our year as "Engineers and the City" as we believed that as a Livery we still have much to learn about the City. My principal guest at the Installation Dinner, The Remembrancer Mr Paul Double reflected this theme. I believed this was the first time that we had ever entertained the Remembrancer. As a Company we had embraced many of the traditions and customs of the City but I suspected the office of the Remembrancer, one of the City's Oldest & High Offices, was perhaps the least well known. In his speech, Paul Double, covered the role of his office in a most entertaining and informative manner and I believe set the tone for

my year. The next day, Pamela Hawley, presided at the Brooch Lunch at Wax Chandlers' Hall when she passed over the Master's Lady's Brooch to my wife. Whilst the Past Masters' and Wardens' Ladies enjoyed themselves downstairs, the Clerk, Beadle and I were upstairs going through the Master's In-tray whilst nevertheless enjoying the same food and wine. The week continued with my attendance at the Wax Chandlers' Company Livery Dinner; very appropriate that my first Dinner as Master should be with our landlords.

The first Livery visit to the Mansion House on 18 May continued my theme for the year when we were given a superb tour by Mr. John Davies the Keeper of Walbrook Hall. I was particularly pleased when the tour included the vaults to see the magnificent collection of gold, silver gilt and silverware as well as the Lord Mayor's regalia. Although I had, some years earlier, been privileged to have a private tour of the Mansion House, this was the first time many Liverymen and their guests were able to enjoy and appreciate the pictures and furniture and to learn more about the history of the building. The visit concluded with an enjoyable informal luncheon in another vault in St. Swithin's Lane. The month of May brought a mixture of dinners, luncheons, lectures and visits which are probably typical of every Master's programme but was just a preparation for June which, for an article in the Swordsman I called 'The Master's Midsummer Marathon' from which I quote:

"June was a fascinating and very hectic month with a number of unique events as part of a schedule which included no less than 23 separate engagements. There were the usual but no less fascinating events including The Pewterers' Company "Pewter Live", The Firefighters' "Master's Reception", HMS SULTAN's Livery Day and Charity Reception, SETPOINT Surrey's "Festival of Science & Technology", Cornwall & the City Reception in The Mansion House, The Scientific Instrument Makers' Banquet in the Mansion House, Lunch at The Old Bailey, the Election of Sheriffs and our own Company visit to the Black Country Museum. The month finished on a sadder note with the Memorial Service for Founder Member, Sir Alan Veale. There are, however, three events which warrant special mention.

Cornwall & the City – Visit to the Royal Cornwall Show - The current Lord Mayor, Alderman David Brewer, is a Cornishman who has maintained strong links with his native county. He was, therefore, invited by the Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall to bring a civic party to the Royal Cornwall Show near Wadebridge at which 66 Livery

Companies were represented; 44 by their Masters. Our visit started with a Dinner at Cabilla Manor Farm near Bodmin, the home of the High Sheriff of Cornwall. Finding this remote location was interesting particularly with directions which read "Turn right 400 yards before..." Thank goodness for an airman as Clerk. A large clear plastic marquee had been erected in the grounds with truly magnificent views across the Cornish countryside and we enjoyed champagne, courtesy of the Master Grocer, on the lawns. The next day we travelled to the Royal Cornwall Showground and a chance to view all the exhibits. After lunch in a marquee attached to the Members Enclosure it was time to robe. With temperatures in the low 80s, many of us decided to remove our jackets before putting on our robes and badges. None of us could recall any other event at which so many Livery Masters had been robed outside London. As a prize bull refused to leave the ring, the show ran late and we were kept standing, in processional order, for almost an hour but our sympathy went to the Pikemen of the Honourable Artillery Company, the Lord Mayor's Bodyguard, who also had to stand in full uniform. One moment of light relief was an impromptu inspection by the Lord Mayor before he boarded his open coach and also the light-hearted banter as we discussed which of us would win "Best in Breed". And then off for a circuit around the main ring and the salute taken by the Lord Mayor; we followed the prize giving of all the prize cattle, sheep goats etc so we had to watch where we walked whilst acknowledging the applause of the crowds. As part of the show there was a "Cornwall and the City" marquee with displays by the Turners', Pewterers' & Broderers' Companies. After this unique experience a reception in the President's Marquee brought the day to a close.

Next morning we were off again for breakfast at the Eden Project followed by a most amusing talk by the founder Tim Smit. A two hour tour of the Biomes with Anjie our most knowledgeable guide ended with lunch back in "The Core" which gave our Clerk, Graham, our wives and I an excellent insight into what awaits us in September. Overall an experience not to have been missed.

H.M. The Queen's 80th Birthday Luncheon in the Mansion House -This was one invitation which was totally unexpected and it was an honour and privilege for Mary and me to represent the Company in the Mansion House on Thursday 15th June. Besides the Engineers', only eight other Livery Companies were represented all of whom had direct connections with either The Queen or Prince Philip. As you can imagine we suddenly started taking an interest in the BBC Television programmes on "The Great British Menu" so, unusually, we knew the menu in advance. It was a glorious sunny day as we walked from the office to the Mansion House to join 350 other dignitaries or VIP's – the BBC didn't seem able to decide which we were! The flower arrangements in the Egyptian Hall of peonies, roses and sweet peas gave a marvellous feel and scent of summer. The speeches by The Lord Mayor and The Queen were amusing and set the tone for an extremely friendly and relaxed occasion. Inevitably the menu was the main talking point. The smoked salmon starter was delicious and the roasted turbot with mussels and oxtail was a fascinating combination. The venison was excellent and the custard tart was also good. As The Queen commented choosing a menu by means of a competition is unusual but it seemed to work although we all wondered whether it was pure chance that the 4 chefs came from England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales! As we left the Egyptian Hall, the 4 chefs were lined up in the Grand Salon looking slightly bemused as they received the congratulations of the guests. A unique occasion we will always remember.

The Ironbridge Livery Weekend – 16th – 18th June - In the early 1980s, our Founder Master, Sir Peter Gadsden as President of the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Development Trust started an annual visit in June by Masters and Clerks for a tour of the various Museum sites. Originally a one day event, it has expanded over the years to include a Livery Dinner with Sir Peter in the chair, a full-day tour and a President's Ball chaired by the President of the Museum Trust which is also open to all "Friends of the Ironbridge Gorge Museum". I first attended in 1987 and this year was my 20th successive Livery Weekend although for the past 10 years I have acted as a guide. It has become a 'must do' event for most Masters and this year 75 Companies were represented.

It is impossible to do justice to all Museum sites in one day so the Tour has to be a 'taster' only. Even after 20 years there is always something new to see and it is always interesting to see the reactions of those making return visits. Besides up-dating the visitors on the new developments, most guides concentrate on the educational work of the Museum which is of direct interest to many of the Livery Companies. Each year some 55,000 school children come on organised visits although the size of the two Youth Hostels is a limiting factor given that many have to travel from all parts of the UK. The main hostel will undergo a major refurbishment autumn in 2007. On the Sunday, the weekend

ended with a visit to the Cosford Aero Museum which was made much more interesting with all the additional information provided by our Clerk."

The Warden's Lecture Lunch was held on 26th May 2006 when the Junior Warden, Chris Price, spoke on 'Engineering Success and promoting understanding in the City'. Usually the Master doesn't attend this event but I had a particular interest in the subject and so I sought the agreement of the Senior Warden, who would be in the chair, to allow me to be present. This event also had further significance as it was to be the last event in Wax Chandlers' Hall for almost two years. We had been kept well informed by the Wax Chandler's Company of their intention to refurbish the Hall and we expected it to be unavailable for events from July 2006 until early 2007. In the end it was 2008 before we could again use the Hall for events but more of that later.

Although very much involved with Ironbridge, I had, over the years, also paid a number of visits the Black Country Museum and I thought this would make an excellent Livery visit which took place on 20th June 2006. Although some parts of the Museum are not dissimilar to Blists Hill at Ironbridge, the Black Country Museum has its own attractions such as a drift mine, a chain making shop and a canal tour through the limestone caverns. With an excellent lunch and afternoon tea before departure I certainly enjoyed the day as I believe did everyone else.

The Engineering Awards Dinner was held in Glaziers' Hall on 4th July 2006; the reception room giving a wonderful view of the City across the river. My predecessors, particularly Ted Willmott, had done much to put the funding of our awards on a firm footing and had initiated a review of the awards to the Armed Services. These had multiplied over the years but hadn't really kept up with changes to a more tri-service orientation within the services. As the Service Awards Coordinator I had been chairing a small working party consisting of Court Assistant Commodore Malcolm Shirley, Liveryman Rear Admiral Neil Latham and the Clerk and, in 2005, the Court approved its recommendations. With the Clerk's previous experience in the Royal Air Force and his on-going contacts with the Armed Services, Graham was ideally suited to implement the new awards and to obtain the agreement of all the engineering branches within the Ministry of Defence. Neil Latham was able to accept my invitation to present all the Awards and to be the principal speaker. In introducing Neil I recalled *"Which leads me to our principal guest, Rear Admiral Neil Latham whom I first knew as a young Sub Lieutenant. Neil's final year degree project was undertaken in my Department of Materials Technology and I know he did very well although neither Neil nor I can remember the topic of his project. We next met when Neil was the Commanding Officer of HMS SULTAN and shortly afterwards he became a Freeman and Liveryman of this Company. On being promoted Rear Admiral he was appointed Commandant, Defence College of Management & Technology, part of the Defence Academy of the United Kingdom, which many of us remember as the Royal Military Collage of Science at Shrivenham. Neil has been particularly helpful in our review of Service Awards and in coordinating the nominees for two of them. I am personally pleased a former student has agreed to be our principal guest and speaker this evening"*.

Penny Taylor organised another Informal Luncheon at the Mill House Hotel at Kingham near Stow-on-the-Wold to which Mary and I journeyed from Sussex. A most enjoyable occasion with a chance to meet up with Liverymen and their partners away from the usual formalities of the City. Although not a golfer, I persuaded my Son and Son-in-Law to represent the Master at the Annual Golf Day on 21st July which also just happened to be my birthday. For the first time this was centred on Clandon Regis Golf Club a few miles east of Guildford organised by David & Gill Scahill. I know the Master's team had a great day and we all joined up for the traditional dinner when I had the pleasure of presenting a prize to Roger, my Son-in-Law and also to the Master Wax Chandler who joined the group for the afternoon round.

The Out-of-Town Meeting has now become the most complicated event in the annual programme and almost the first question the Clerk asks a new Junior Warden is "Where are you going to hold your weekend" even though it could be 3 years away. My first inclination had been to base our event on Plymouth where we had lived and served for many years whilst in the Royal Navy but I knew my likely successor was thinking of Portsmouth and this would have been naval overload. Mary and I therefore

decided on Cornwall with its mining connections and a Maritime Museum in Falmouth. Serious planning started in November 2004 and Graham, Margaret, Mary and I made two enjoyable visits to Falmouth 'walking the course'. Places such as the Eden Project virtually self selected themselves and the new University of Exeter site housing the formerly independent Camborne School of Mines was just outside Falmouth so Falmouth was the obvious location for the hotel. The English Heritage web site showed that Pendennis Castle, on the headland overlooking Falmouth, accepted corporate bookings and was available on the right date. So in September 2006 when Mary and I travelled down to Falmouth the day before members and their guests were due to arrive it was hard to imagine that after all the planning it was all about to happen.

After an informal dinner in the Falmouth Hotel, the Friday morning was spent at the Tremough Campus of the Combined Universities in Cornwall just 5 miles away where we were given a wide range of technical presentations. After lunch, a visit to the National Maritime Museum where a particular delight was seeing the "Bartlett Library"; a large collection of books donated by Past Master John Bartlett who was on hand to explain his passion for nautical books. In the evening with glorious weather, we travelled by minibus the short distance up to Pendennis Castle for a reception in the old keep with its spectacular views across the harbour. Mary and I thoroughly enjoyed greeting everyone and welcoming them to 'our castle' which it was for one night. A short walk across the Castle Green took us to the refurbished Royal Artillery Mess and an all Cornish menu including Cornish wines. We were particularly delighted to welcome the Chairman of Cornwall County Council whom we had met during the Lord Mayor's Cornwall and the City events. The principal speaker was an old friend and colleague, Professor Keith Barratt, Past President of the Institution of Nuclear Engineers of which 30 years earlier I had been a Vice President. Along with Keith and his wife, our other personal guests were Commander Bill and Mrs. Eileen Watson. Bill and I served together in the Royal Navy and he had been my Best Man at our wedding whereas Eileen had worked with Mary before we were married. A great evening made even more memorable by being surrounded not only by personal friends but also so many of the Livery.

On Saturday morning, a visit to the Geevor Tin Mine now a heritage site but a mine at which I had been underground whilst it was still working. In the afternoon it was back to the coaches for a visit to the Eden Project arriving just as the last visitors were leaving so we had it to ourselves for the evening. After a leisurely tour with very informative guides it was time for a drink on the Terrace and a talk from the Marketing Director, Dave Mileer who spoke with passion of the history and plans for the site. During dinner we were also able to mark the Clerk's birthday with the Beadle bringing in a wheel chair to mark Graham having achieved a 'milestone' year. The formal part of the programme finished on Sunday morning with a Sung Eucharist in Truro Cathedral although many stayed on for an extra visit to the Lost Gardens of Heligan. After three glorious days it was hard to appreciate it was all over but Mary and I were heartened by the many expressions of gratitude for a great weekend and very appreciative of all the work put in by the Clerk and Beadle which allowed us to relax and enjoy ourselves.

With Wax Chandlers' Hall out of action, the Ladies Luncheon was held in Armourers' Hall on 4th October 2006. In keeping with my theme for the year, Mary had invited Murray Craig, the Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court as the principal guest and speaker. We had both known Murray for many years and knew he had a fund of stories about the Freedom of the City and his experiences in the Chamberlain's Court which he told in a most amusing and interesting way.

Many of my predecessors had told me they never really enjoyed their Annual Banquet as they found it rather a daunting experience so I approached the 27th October with some trepidation. However as the evening developed I found myself really enjoying the experience due in no small part to the relaxed and friendly attitude of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Alderman David and Mrs Tessa Brewer. They really were great company and I found it hard to believe I was sitting in the centre of the top table in the Mansion House with the City Sword and Mace directly behind me. My other principal guests were Mr. and Mrs. Adrian White. Adrian was Chairman of Biwater plc, the owner of Denbies Wine Estate in Dorking and he was also the High Sheriff of Surrey. I had first met Adrian through the Young Entrepreneurs scheme, of

which he was a great supporter, and approximately eight years earlier I had been one of his sponsors for the Freedom of the City. Adrian, as an engineer, running a very successful company gave an excellent speech containing a number of important messages for engineers. The Annual Banquet at which you are in the chair will always hold special significance particularly when your private guests include your son, daughter and their partners as well as other long time friends but, perhaps unexpectedly, it also turned out to be the one Mary and I enjoyed the most.



Between the Banquet and the Annual Carol Service on 13th December, there were many enjoyable dinners and lectures at which Mary and I were the guests of other Livery Companies. Arriving for a meeting of the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Development Trust in early December, I was met with the sad news of the sudden death of our Founder Master, Sir Peter Gadsden. I had been with Peter only a few days earlier so the news was a great shock and difficult to imagine the City and Ironbridge without him. Earlier in the year, I had attended the funeral for Past Master Len Weaver so to lose two such tremendous supporters of the Company in relatively fast succession did put a slight damper on the year.

For the Carol Service in the Tower of London, the Chapel Royal was once again full to capacity and provided a unique canvas for the traditional service of lessons and carols. The dinner following the service was held in Carpenters' Hall but due to road works, the ½ mile trip gave members and their guests a most interesting coach tour of the City. It also meant the second trip for the coaches was seriously delayed with a late start to the meal. At the start of the meal I had to make an apology which was reported as follows in the *Swordsman*; *The Master introduced dinner by noting his choice of menu – as printed on the menu cards – had been considered courageous. However it was quite clearly considered more than this by the caterers who decided we should eat something completely different. The absence of a menu provided interesting table discussion and much guesswork into the origin of the main course which transpired to be 'wild boar' rather than some of the more exotic meats suggested.*

Eleven years earlier I had been instrumental in arranging for the Carol Service to be held in the Tower and for the past ten years, the Chaplain to the Tower had been The Reverend Paul Abram who would be retiring during 2007 and hence this was his last Engineers' Service. It therefore gave me particular pleasure to present Paul with a pair of goblets as a reminder of his time looking after the Company.

My first event of 2007 was to accompany my grandson Daniel to the Lord Mayor's Fancy Dress Party held in the Mansion House. This annual event is restricted to children between 5 and 11 years who have a direct family connection with either the Masters of the Livery Companies or senior members of the Corporation. The children get their own invitation from the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress and are received on arrival 'in state' before the Lord Mayor and the civic team process into the Egyptian Hall to be greeted by around 700 children. Although I was sorry none of my other grandchildren qualified, looking after one energetic 5 year old proved quite enough. We had been allocated the third sitting for tea in the ballroom so Daniel was getting rather hungry and insisted on joining the queue just as it was forming. Whilst still waiting to go upstairs, the Lord Mayor emerged from his office, having removed his robes, and came across when I

witnessed my 5 year old – dressed as Captain Hook - and the Lord Mayor discussing the relative merits of their respective jobs; a conversation which came to a sudden end when the tea queue was released.

Wax Chandlers' Hall had been unavailable for meetings since mid July so our Court Meetings had to be held elsewhere; an excellent opportunity for many Assistants to see some of the smaller Halls. In October 2006 we met in Watermen's' Hall and in January at Pewterers' Hall which also included the Court and Ladies Dinner. Pewterers' Hall had a personal significance as it was in this Hall in July 1983 I first heard about the new Engineers' Company from Peter Gadsden whom I had invited to talk at the Council Dinner of the then Institution of Metallurgists. At each of these venues, I took the opportunity to give a short history of the Halls which was in keeping with the theme of my year.

On 23rd January, we had an evening visit to the Old Bailey with a fascinating and informative tour by the Secondary. We started in the famous No.1 Court and due to the shortage of seating, the Clerk finished up in the dock but he had the advantage when we all went through the dock to view the cells below. After viewing some of the historic parts of the old building as well as one of the newer Courts we moved next door to Cutlers' Hall for an informal supper.

Most Masters entertained their Wardens and their partners either as a small group or with other members of the Court usually towards the end of their year when the Master can thank them for their support. Mary and I thought HQS WELLINGTON, the home of the Master Mariners' Company and a former warship, would provide an ideal setting especially as they have a room near the bridge which seats just twelve. On 5th February 2007, we therefore much enjoyed greeting our three Wardens and the Clerk with their wives as well as Stephen the Beadle and the Chaplain Michael West. We had English wines from Denbies and drank the toast to 'The Queen' naval style; another memorable event amongst so many great memories.

The end of a Master's year is signalled by the Election Court Meeting and Dinner held in 2007 on 27th February at Barber Surgeons' Hall. A few years earlier, the Court had agreed that Chartered Engineers who were not yet Fellows of their Institutions could be admitted to the Freedom although their progress to the livery would still be dependent on obtaining Fellowship. At this Court meeting, I had the pleasure in clothing in the Livery, Bjorn Conway, who was the first Freeman to be admitted under the new procedures, and who was now eligible for the Livery.

The work at Wax Chandlers' Hall proved to be more extensive than first thought and a six months programme had now gone out to fifteen months. As I noted at the February Court Meeting, unless you had actually visited the Hall you could have no perception of just how bad the working conditions have been as the refurbishment continued; it would be October 2007 before the Hall was once again open for business. However it was well worth the wait and the Hall with its much extended facilities is a great improvement. I was a frequent visitor to our office throughout this period and saw for myself the amount of dust and noise generated by the work and also the extreme difficulties in just getting in and out of the building. Throughout, the Master, Officers and the Livery received excellent service from the Clerk and Beadle demonstrating their dedication to the Company.

Stephen had by now been our Beadle for over twenty years and for the past four years he had worked full time in the office. Under Graham's guidance, Stephen had taken on responsibility for most of the day-to-day running of the office and, in recognition of his increased responsibilities, the Court, whilst reaffirming his appointment as Beadle, formally appointed Stephen as Assistant Clerk and I was particularly pleased to invest him with his badge of office. Our ordinances allow the Court to appoint both Honorary Freemen and Honorary Liverymen although such appointments had been relatively rare. Appointments as Honorary Liverymen have been to recognise those who have served the engineering profession in its widest sense; the last appointment being the Founder Master Sir Peter Gadsden in April 2004. Appointments to the Honorary Freedom have been seen as recognising contributions to the profession through service to the Company. The only Honorary Freedom previously conferred was to the late Hugh Rom when he retired as Honorary Chaplain in 1997.



Honorary Freedom

Stephen Grundy receiving his certificate of Honorary Freedom at the Election Court Dinner March 2007

I had felt it important to recognise Stephen’s 20 years of service to the Company and I was pleased when the Court accepted my recommendation to award him an Honorary Freedom which I was able to present at the Election Court Dinner.

Until 2005, the Out-of-Town Meeting was effectively the last time the Master presided at a Livery Event but there was now nothing for the Livery after the Election Court. Mary and I felt we would like one last informal opportunity to meet with the Livery and their partners so we arranged a visit to Painshill Gardens on 17th April. We indicated we would be having lunch at Denbies Vineyard if anyone wished to join us and were delighted when most of those on the visit also came to lunch. Unlike our previous visit to Painshill in 2000, the weather was glorious and an interesting tour with knowledgeable guides finished with an excellent tea. All that now remained was for me to preside at Common Hall on 22nd April at Plaisterers’ Hall. After the formal business and before investing my successor, Rear Admiral David Bawtree with the gown and insignia as Master, I had one last duty to perform.

Over the year, we had been in discussions with RedR to formalise our relationship as a patron and I was delighted to invite the Chief Executive of RedR, Martin McCann to join me in signing a Formal Memorandum of Understanding.



RedR Memorandum of Understanding

Martin McCann and the Master after the signing of the memorandum at Plaisterers’ Hall in April 2007

“Aren’t you going to miss it all when you stand down” is one of the most frequently asked questions to which I can truthfully answer ‘no’. Being Master was a great privilege and an experience I wouldn’t have missed but it is very demanding and it does take over your life.

Chapter 24 2007 – 2008

Master: Rear Admiral David Bawtree CB DL
Wardens: Mr. A (Tony) Roche FREng, Mr F Chris Price FREng
& Mr. John H Robinson FREng



Installing David into office was another of those quirks of history as I first met him in 1963. I had just joined the staff of the Royal Naval Engineering College and shared an office with his prospective Father-in-Law, who was a civilian demonstrator in my department. David rather exaggerated our respective roles when, in presenting me with my Past Master's Goblet he said *"Bryan and I go back a good many years to the Royal Naval Engineering College in Plymouth, of blessed memory, when Bryan was something important and on the staff and I was a poor student chasing Ann and trying to learn something about Ordnance Engineering. Such was the close relationship between staff and students, largely because they earned more than we did, that this goblet would have come in handy at the many dinners we were required to attend. So I hope this will bring back many happy memories and it is a pleasure for the pupil to present this to his teacher!"* As mentioned in an earlier chapter, my goblet is unique in that it records not only my year as Master but also my years as Clerk. After those early meetings with David, our paths didn't cross again until we met through the Livery.

The Master recalls: *"Whilst I was serving as Flag Officer Portsmouth in 1992 Sir Peter Gadsden came to dinner with his wife, Belinda. Peter had introduced the now established tradition that the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth is elected to the Freedom of the City of London and the meal was in celebration of the event. Peter mentioned the Worshipful Company of Engineers and asked me why I had not joined. I told him that I had not heard of the Company but would be delighted to be involved. So I joined and both my wife Ann and I were delighted that we were accepted.*

I knew very little about the Livery movement to start with but I soon found out about the enormous benefits it gives to the professions and the schools it supports. I went to Christ's Hospital, founded in 1552 by Edward VI when he directed the Lord Mayor of London to do something about the starving children on the streets. Together with a number of Livery Companies the Lord Mayor raised the money and over 450 years later the school flourishes in Horsham, West Sussex. It was a great pleasure to be able to take members of the Company to the school during my year as Master.

In his speech at the Installation Dinner, the Master recalled his involvement with the NHS after he left the Royal Navy and particularly with the Royal Hospital at Haslar. So it was entirely appropriate that his principal guest was Vice Admiral Ian Jenkins who had recently retired as Surgeon General. On Wednesday 25th April, the change-over was completed when my wife Mary presided at the Brooch Luncheon and handed over the Master's Lady's Brooch to Ann Bawtree. As Wax Chandlers' hall was still unavailable, the Luncheon was held in Cooper's Hall, a delightful small hall situated in a Jacobean Town House built around 1684.

Again to quote the Master; *"It is a very great privilege to be Master and it does provide the opportunity to show Members something of the interests Ann and I share".* David and Ann's love of music manifested itself in his first Livery visit to the Royal Opera House Covent Garden. This followed on from the 2006 Bridge Lecture but was deliberately timed to coincide with David's year. Many of those attending had been on an earlier visit in Richard Rooley's year when the refurbishment was still in full swing. So this provided a great opportunity to, once again, see behind the scenes with everything completed. A buffet lunch completed an excellent tour. The year continued with the Warden's Lecture Luncheon held in Brewer's Hall on 8th June

when the new Junior Warden John Robinson spoke on “New Engineering – a Portal for the Future”. Traditionally much of the more exciting engineering has been in large scale projects but now there are significant challenges in molecular science and tissue engineering and the lecture stimulated a wide ranging discussion.

As the Master has already referred above, the next visit was to Christ Hospital School in Horsham on 5 July 2007. I know it gave the Master particular pleasure, as an old boy and a Governor, to lead a party to the school of which many were probably aware having seen pupils wearing their traditional long woollen gowns and yellow stockings taking part in Lord Mayors’ Shows and other events but not many had any concept of the School’s history.



Awards Dinner 2007

A selection of award winners and sponsors with the Master and Dr. Southern

The next major event of the year was the Awards Dinner held in Ironmongers’ hall on Tuesday 10th July 2007. The connections with Christ’s Hospital School continued as the outgoing Headmaster, Dr. Peter Southern was the principal guest and speaker and, with the Master, presented the awards. Besides the usual range of awards, this was the first time we presented a Heritage Engineering Award. This was made to the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Development Trust towards an industrial mine railway at the Blists Hill site and was received by the new Chief Executive of the Museum, Steve Miller, whom Mary and I had a chance to get to know better during the evening.

The ‘summer season’ was brought to a close by another very successful Golf Day held for the 2nd year at Clandon Regis Golf Club near Guildford on Friday 27th July 2007. The prizes at the evening dinner were presented by the Senior Warden Tony Roche.

Already it was almost time for the Out-of-Town meeting to be held in Portsmouth from 13th to 16th September introduced by the Master *"We have lived in Portsmouth for the past 47 years so it was a delight to be able to show over 100 Liverymen and their guests around our home town during the out-of-town visit. Over 150 people dined on board HMS Warrior (1860), where we danced in the gun deck gangways! It was also of great professional interest to see the great strides taken in ship-building technology as we toured Vosper Shipbuilders to see the front end of the new Type 45 destroyers being built. Both these and other visits emphasised the interests and involvement of the Company in the development of engineering."*

Following the usual informal dinner on the Thursday evening, the Out-of-Town weekend started on Friday 14th September 2007 with a visit to Vosper Thorneycroft Shipbuilding Hall in Portsmouth Naval Base. This is a modern commercial venture that has brought warship building back into the dockyard. As the Master has commented this allowed non-naval members an opportunity to understand modern shipbuilding practice. Although these weekends are most enjoyable social occasions, they also achieve one of the Company's main objectives of extending the technical and professional knowledge of Liverymen and emphasise the increasingly multi-disciple approach needed in engineering. Each Master, through his own interests, therefore widens the perspective of all the Livery. The day continued with a visit to the Royal Naval Museum and talks on the development of the dockyard. No visit to Portsmouth is complete without a tour of HMS VICTORY which brought the day's visits to an end. With just time to change, it was then off for a formal dinner in the Royal Marines Museum at the eastern end of Southsea's esplanade. During the reception there was time to wander through the rooms displaying Royal Marine History since their founding in 1664 before dinner was served in the Mountbatten Room. Entertainment was provided by "StopGap", six young choral scholars of Portsmouth Grammar School and Portsmouth Cathedral and the after-dinner speaker was Tom Hands who based his humorous speech on education with amusing anecdotes about PGS sports trips and the importance of engineers. On Saturday a visit to the Weald & Downland Museum at Singleton in West Sussex which contains 45 historic buildings and attracts over 150,000 visitors a year and which certainly inspired all those who attended. One of the highlights of the weekend had to be dinner on board HMS WARRIOR which, when launched in 1860, was the largest, fastest and most powerful warship in the world. Drinks on the upper deck were followed by dinner on the main gun deck with the Loyal Toast, in accordance with naval tradition, being drunk seated. To ensure no-one forgot the evening, the Master presented everyone with a commemorative glass inscribed "Worshipful Company of Engineers, HMS WARRIOR (1860), Portsmouth 16th September 2007. The weekend concluded with a Choral Sung Eucharist in Portsmouth Cathedral on Sunday 16th September with lunch afterwards in Portsmouth Grammar School of which David is Chairman of Governors. A superb series of visits which very much represented the Master and Ann's many interests.

The 3rd October 2007 saw the Ladies Luncheon which was one of the first events to be held in the newly refurbished Wax Chandlers' Hall. The transformation is truly amazing with the Livery Hall being decorated in our Company colours of blue and gold which incidentally also happen to be the colours of the Wax Chandlers' Company. To quote the Master; *"Ann's lunch was memorable for the talk given by the Head Teacher of St Luke's School, Portsmouth, Mrs. Krysia Butwilooska who talked with great humour and dedication about the issues involved with turning round a failing inner city school. A number of the ladies present were, or still are, School Governors who readily identified with the challenges she faced."*



On 9th October we were at last able to hold our Court Meeting 'at home' and this gave us all a chance to appreciate all the work which had been done including a new fireplace in the Livery Hall given by Wax Chandler Dick Blaxland, now married to our Founder Master's sister in memory of his old friend Peter. The new chimney piece is to be called the 'Gadsden Fireplace'

The Gadsden Fireplace at Wax Chandlers' Hall

On 12th October, the Master organised a visit to the Royal College of Defence Studies at Seaford House which included a lecture by Assistant Commissioner Tarique Ghaffur of the Metropolitan Police who spoke on "The Nexus between Terrorism, Organised Crime and Communities". Following the lecture, there was a Buffet Lunch in the opulent and comfortable surroundings of Seaford House which was built in 1842.

The Annual banquet in the Mansion House on 26th October 2007 had a particular significance for me as it was the first banquet since 1986 when I hadn't been 'on duty'. Having become so used to going upstairs well in advance of the Reception it was novel to have to queue. As previously reported this was also the first occasion on which the Fiona & Nicholas Hawley Award was presented; the recipient being Dr. William Mayes of Newcastle University. In his absence The Lord Mayor was represented by Mr. Alderman & Sheriff Michael Bear, a civil engineer, who also responded to the Civic Toast. Instead of our usual Service Orchestra, musical accompaniment was provided by the Connecting Arts Symphonic Brass Quintet. The other principal guest and speaker was General Sir Garry Johnson, Chairman of the Council of Christ's Hospital School.

2007 ended with the traditional Carol Service in the Tower of London conducted by our Chaplain, Michael West and the newly appointed Chaplain to the Chapel Royal, The Reverend Roger Hall. For a number of years, the post Carol Service Dinner had been at Clothworkers' Hall which is, just about, walking distance from the Tower. However in 2005 and 2006, with the Hall not available, other Halls were used which involved the use of coaches. Despite all the best efforts of the Clerk, road works and security alerts meant delayed journeys and late starts to the meal and the Clerk had had enough. After exploring various alternatives; not easy when over 220 people are involved, the Master and Clerk settled on a river cruise aboard the PS Dixie Queen. She is Britain's largest conference, party and event boat, based right by Tower Bridge, and has recently had a £10 million conversion into a luxurious replica of a 19th century Mississippi Paddleboat. A particular highlight was being on deck to watch Tower Bridge being raised for our passage to Greenwich and beyond. A particularly successful innovation.

The 6th February 2008 saw another Bridge Lecture jointly hosted with City University when John Burton, the Surveyor of the Fabric of Westminster Abbey and Canterbury Cathedral and a successor to Sir Christopher Wren, talked inspirationally about 'Engineering our Great Gothic Cathedrals'. To quote the Master "*The Bridge Lecture was outstanding, the best attended ever.*"

The approaching end to a Master's year is always signalled by the Election Court Meeting and Dinner held this year at Wax Chandlers' Hall on 26th February 2008 at which the Senior Warden, Mr. Tony Roche, was duly elected as the Master for 2008 -09. Following on from the previous two years, the Election Court Service was held at the Church of St. Vedast alias Foster conducted as usual by the Honorary Chaplain.

The Master did however have one last surprise for us all. Instead of the usual dinner for Wardens, Clerk and their Ladies, David and Ann arranged an evening visit to the Whitechapel Bell Foundry and extended the invitation list to include some Past Master's and other friends and their ladies who had supported them during their year. Following a fascinating tour of the foundry, we then enjoyed an excellent buffet supper in the main building. This was a most imaginative change and I could already see the Wardens and their wives thinking what are we going to do now! David's year finally came to an end with Common Hall and the Installation Court and Dinner being held at Butchers' Hall on 22nd April 2008.

I leave the final words to the Master: "*Our year passed quickly with some 80 events on top of a fairly busy diary. We dined in elegance and style in places we would otherwise have never visited, and made a number of new friends among the Masters and wives of other Livery Companies. Overall I hope we were able to interest the Members with our particular enthusiasms such that their fields of interest were further widened and the Company's reputation enhanced.*"

Chapter 26.

Final Words

We have now installed our 25th Master and the celebrations to mark the 25th Anniversary of the Grant of Livery to the Worshipful Company of Engineers have been finalised. We marked our 10th and 20th Anniversaries with visits to Ironbridge so it entirely appropriate we returned to Ironbridge in September 2008 as part of the Out-of-Town weekend. However the highlight will be the 25th Anniversary Annual Banquet in the Mansion House in October 2008.

After nearly four years of operating under a Royal Charter, there is virtually nothing we would want to change. The arrangements for election of new Assistants and Common Hall have worked well and the Company has continued to flourish. The Company is very satisfied with the accommodation in Wax Chandlers' Hall and having a 'home' so close to Guildhall is a decided advantage. The lease on the office was extended in 2007. Graham, our Clerk and Stephen the Assistant Clerk & Beadle continue to run the Company extremely well and to provide a first class service to members.

Writing this history has allowed me to relive 25 fascinating and exciting years. It has been an incredible journey and one I wouldn't have missed for the world. Throughout the comments reflect my own views and my perceptions of the events of the last 25 years. I hope I haven't either offended any of my many friends in the Livery or failed to mention something particularly dear to their heart.

The Engineers' Company is one of the most vibrant and well respected Livery Companies in the City of London. It is truly a "Well Engineered Company".



The Master, Mr. Tony Roche, presents a commemorative shield to the Blists Hill Curators during the 25th Anniversary visit to Ironbridge in September 2008.

The Master with the 'Top Table' at the 25th Anniversary Dinner held at Coalbrookdale in 13th September 2008.

From the left:

Past Master Bryan Gibson

Steve Miller, CEO, Ironbridge Museum

Mrs. Jeanette Roche

Mrs. Anne Gee, High Sheriff of Salop

The Master, Tony Roche

Lady (Belinda) Gadsden

Mrs Judy Clowes

*Richard Clowes, Chairman Ironbridge
Museum Development Trust*

Ronald Gee



Annex A
The Armorial Bearings and Supporters
of
The Worshipful Company of Engineers



The Shield – is divided into three horizontal sections. The upper third shows the sun (representing energy) and it has sixteen rays; one for each of the sixteen institutions that went to form the Council of Engineering Institutions and whose members of the Fellow class are eligible to be Liverymen of the Company. The middle third shows a representation of Tower Bridge indicating the close ties between engineering and the City of London. The lower third shows a rack and pinion representing the engineering and manufacturing skills of the Freemen of the Company

The Supporters are a winged Pegasus and a Wyvern. The winged Pegasus (representing horse power and flight) wears the Badge of the Company and holds a measuring stick to represent some of the disciplines in which Freemen are engaged. The Wyvern indicates not only the link between engineers and The City of London but more particularly, as a tribute to the Founder Master who had the same Wyvern in his Coat of Arms. The Wyvern is wearing the Badge of the Lord Mayor of London as the Founder Master was a Past Lord Mayor and is holding a shovel representing other disciplines of the Freemen.

The Crest above the helmet incorporates a representation of Smeaton’s Lighthouse indicating the desire of the Freemen not only to bring light and guidance but also to show that they place safety above all. The Lighthouse is supported by two lions as a British symbol to indicate strength and firmness of purpose.

The Base is a representation of the Iron Bridge (built in 1779 and still in existence) – the first iron bridge constructed of iron. It can also be taken to represent strength and endurance. Below it is a representation of water indicating that Freemen of the Company are also interested in this dimension.

The motto “Certare Ingenio” is a quotation of Lucretius’ De Rerum Natura and can be translated as “To use one’s skills to the best of one’s abilities”.

Annex B – Master Engineers’

1983 – 1985	Alderman Sir Peter Gadsden GBE AC FREng (<i>Founder Master</i>) (<i>Deceased 2006</i>)
1985 – 1986	Sir Denis Rooke OM CBE FRS FREng (<i>Deceased 2008</i>)
1986 – 1987	Sir William Barlow FREng
1987 – 1988	Mr. Robert Dunn FREng
1988 – 1989	Rear Admiral P G Hammersley CB OBE
1989 – 1990	Mr. G A Lee FREng (<i>Deceased 2002</i>)
1990 – 1991	Alderman Sir Francis McWilliams GBE FREng
1991 – 1992	Mr. T J C Crocker (<i>Deceased 1994</i>)
1992 – 1993	Mr. J V Bartlett CBE FREng
1993 – 1994	Mr. G Clerehugh OBE FREng
1994 – 1995	Rear Admiral J S Grove CB OBE
1995 – 1996	Mr. L F Turner OBE
1996 – 1997	Sir Frederick Crawford FREng
1997 – 1998	Dr. J C Smith CBE FREng FRSE
1998 – 1999	Dr. D S Mitchell CBE
1999 – 2000	Mr. R H Rooley FREng
2000 – 2001	Dr. L J Weaver CBE (<i>Deceased 2006</i>)
2001 – 2002	Mr. A G Jackson
2002 – 2003	Mr. R J R Cousins
2003 – 2004	Sir David Davies CBE FRS FREng
2004 – 2005	Major General E G Willmott CB OBE
2005 – 2006	Dr. R Hawley CBE FREng FRSE
2006 – 2007	Commander B D Gibson MBE Royal Navy
2007 – 2008	Rear Admiral D K Bawtree CB DL
2008 -	Mr. A G Roche FREng

CLERKS:

1983 – 1986	Mr. Michael Leonard CVO FREng (<i>Founder Clerk</i>) (<i>Deceased 2002</i>)
1986 – 2002	Commander Bryan Gibson MBE Royal Navy
2003 -	Air Vice-Marshal Graham Skinner CBE RAF

ASSISTANT CLERKS

1983 – 1998	Mr. Raymond Cousins (<i>Founder Assistant Clerk</i>)
2007 -	Mr. Stephen Grundy

HONORARY CHAPLAINS:

1983 – 1997	The Reverend Hugh Rom <i>Founder Chaplain</i>)
1998 -	The Reverend Michael West FREng

BEADLE:

1987 -	Mr. Stephen Grundy
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Annex C: Installations Dinners have been held in the following locations:

1986	Plasterers' Hall
1987	Clothworkers' Hall
1988	Carpenters' Hall
1989	Carpenters' Hall
1990	Ironmongers' Hall
1991	Barber-Surgeons' Hall
1992	Butchers' Hall
1993	Stationers' Hall
1994	Ironmongers' Hall
1995	Vintners' Hall
1996	Ironmongers' Hall
1997	Clothworkers' Hall
1998	Merchant Taylors' Hall
1999	Plasterers' Hall
2000	Plasterers' Hall
2001	Merchant Taylors' Hall
2002	Merchant Taylors' Hall
2003	Merchant Taylor's Hall
2004	Merchant Taylors' Hall
2005	Merchant Taylor's Hall
2006	Skinners' Hall
2007	Plasterers' Hall
2008	Butchers' Hall

Annex D: The first Ladies Livery Dinner, since renamed the Winter Livery Dinner, was held in December 1985 but was then moved to January so there wasn't one in 1986. In 2005, this function was moved to July and renamed the Awards Dinner. The locations used were:

1985	Clothworkers' Hall
1987	Plasterers' Hall
1988	Plasterers' Hall
1989	Plasterers' Hall
1990	Drapers' Hall
1991	Goldsmiths' Hall
1992	Clothworkers' Hall
1993	Insurance Hall
1994	Chartered Accountants' Hall
1995	Clothworkers' Hall
1996	Drapers' Hall
1997	Painters' Hall
1998	Skinners' Hall
1999	Merchant Taylors' Hall
2000	Drapers' Hall
2001	Clothworkers' Hall
2002	Stationers' Hall
2003	Goldsmith's Hall
2004	Ironmongers' Hall
2005 (Awards)	Haberdashers' Hall
2006 (Awards)	Glaziers' Hall
2007 (Awards)	Ironmongers' Hall

Annex E: Locations for Ladies Luncheon:

1987	Guildhall Club
1990	Plasterers' Hall & Museum of London
1991	Fan Makers' Hall in Bishopsgate
1992	Tallow Chandlers' Hall
1993	Clothworkers' Hall
1994	Pewterers' Hall
1995	Armourers' Hall
1996	Watermen's' Hall
1997	Stock Exchange
1998	Barber Surgeons' Hall
1999	Trinity House
2000	Barber Surgeons' Hall
2001	Leathersellers' Hall
2002	Haberdashers' Hall
2003	Wax Chandlers' Hall
2004	Wax Chandlers' Hall
2005	Wax Chandlers' Hall
2006	Armourers' Hall
2007	Wax Chandlers' Hall

ANNEX F: Locations of Out-of-Town Weekends

1994	North East England - British Gas Research Stations, Killingworth & Spadeadam
1995	Portsmouth & Gosport - HMS COLLINGWOOD and HMS WARRIOR
1996	West Midlands - RAF COSFORD, Jackfield Tile Museum & Shugborough Hall
1997	Oxford - Rutherford Appleton Lab, Waterperry Gardens & Heritage Motor Centre
1998	Cambridge – University Engineering Dept, Fitzwilliam Museum & Jesus College
1999	Portmeirion Village – Festiniog Railway, Slate Quarries & Bodnant Gardens
2000	Dublin – Royal College of Surgeons, Trinity College, & Bru na Boinne (Newgrange)
2001	York – The Minister, University of York, North Yorks Moors Railway & Railway Museum, Harewood House & Castle Howard.
2002	Hereford – Bulmers Cider Works & Museum, Hereford Town Hall, Waterworks Museum and Eastnor Castle
2003	Tours France – Chinon Nuclear Power Station, L'Abbaye Royale de Fontvrard, Leonardo da Vinci's House & Chateau Royal D'Amboise
2004	Cardiff – National Museum of Wales, Cardiff Castle, Cardiff Bay Development, National Folk Museum of Wales & Newport Transporter Bridge
2005 (April)	Chatham – Royal Engineers & Royal Engineers Museum, Rochester Cathedral, Chatham Historic Dockyard & Leeds Castle
2005 (September)	North East England – Stephenson's Engine Works, Gateshead Millenium Bridge, Sage Music Centre, Bamburgh Castle & Auckland Castle
2006	Falmouth, Combined Universities of Cornwall site, Maritime Museum, Pendennis Castle, Geevor Tin Mine, The Eden Project & Lost Gardens of Heligan
2007	Vosper Thorneycroft (Portsmouth Naval Base), Royal Naval Museum, Royal Marines Museum, Weald & Downland Museum & HMS WARRIOR