

LIVERYMEN & FREEMEN

The following were clothed as Liverymen at the December Court Meeting:

Andrew Jonathon Brown
Richard Charles Butler
Geoffrey John Dodgson
John Arthur Cadas Godfrey CBE
Reginald George Leslie Haydon OBE
Mark Arthur Rogerson Webb

The following were made Freemen by Redemption at the October Court Meeting:

Miss Sarah Elizabeth Calcutt	Proposed by T J Calcutt Seconded by J D Courtney
Mrs Belinda Wendy Canham	Proposed by N D S Brown Seconded by F W A Brogden
Andrew Roland Chadwick	Proposed by C J French Seconded by M C M Anyan
Christopher Robin Cook	Proposed by J J Marshall Seconded by S C R Fell
Anthony John Morbey	Proposed by N M Hitcham Seconded by A Q Hitchcock
Richard Francis Antony Pemberton	Proposed by A F Pemberton Seconded by Sir Francis Pemberton

The following were made Freemen by Redemption at the December Court Meeting:

Mrs Pamela Jane Corbett	Proposed by J K Reynolds Seconded by M R Cooper
Nicholas Richard Padwick	Proposed by J D Courtney Seconded by C M Tacon
John Frederick Seymour	Proposed by J K Reynolds Seconded by A W D Pexton

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

The late Liveryman Tim Calcutt, presented with the Livery Salver at the 2009 Banquet, and uniquely a second recognition of his exceptional service to the Company.

EDITORS NOTE:

This Newsletter covers Company activities from mid October 2008 until the end of January 2009. Copy date for the Autumn 2009 Newsletter is **15 September 2009**. Will any Liverymen with copy please send it with any photographs by that date. E-mail: rosie.carne@yara.com or post to: Jacobite House, Sancton, York YO43 4QX. *Thank you.*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2009

Tuesday 10 March
Court Meeting & Livery Luncheon in Hall

Friday 27 March
United Guilds' Service in St Paul's Cathedral & Luncheon in Hall

Tuesday 28 April
Agricultural Lecture & Dinner in Butchers' Hall. Speaker: Professor Robert Watson

Tuesday 2 June
Court Meeting & Livery Luncheon in Hall

Wednesday 24 June
Election of Sheriffs at Guildhall and Luncheon in Hall

Wednesday 8 & Thursday 9 July
Summer Outing (Waddesdon and Bletchley Park)

Tuesday 29 September
Election of Lord Mayor at Guildhall and Luncheon in Hall

Tuesday 6 October
Court Meeting, Harvest Thanksgiving Service and Installation (St Sepulchre's-without-Newgate). Livery Luncheon in Haberdashers' Hall

Wednesday 28 October
Court & Committee Ladies Dinner, Bakers' Hall. Speaker: The Rt Revd Graeme Knowles, Dean of St Paul's Cathedral

Saturday 14 November
Lord Mayor's Show and Luncheon in Hall

Tuesday 1 December
Court Meeting & Livery Luncheon in Hall

Please remember that the Clerk allocates places at Company functions on a "first come first served" basis.

OBITUARIES

It is with sadness and regret we announce the death of the following:

Liveryman **Timothy John Calcutt** of Hale Court Farm, Hartfield, East Sussex. Died 31 January 2009. Clothed 12 June 2001.

Liveryman **Peter Bertram Chambers** of Rushford, Thetford, Norfolk. Died 23 October 2008. Clothed 5 December 1983.

Yeoman **Edmund Christopher Parker** DL FRICS of Browsholme Hall, Clitheroe, Lancashire. Died 2 September 2008. Clothed 16 March 1954.



The Worshipful Company of Farmers

Newsletter

Spring 2009



The Farmers Company exhibit in the Lord Mayor's Show

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THE LORD MAYOR'S SHOW

"Great fun but we are also making a serious point about British production and food security".

On Saturday 8th November 2008, the Worshipful Company of Farmers was there to support Ian Luder, the 681st and newly installed Lord Mayor of London, as he made the traditional journey from the Mansion House to the Royal Courts of Justice in order to swear an oath of allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen, thereby satisfying a requirement of his office dating back to 1215. Also with him on that day were more than 5000 other 'supporters' and upwards of 500,000 onlookers joining in the celebrations.

The Lord Mayor's Show is one of the oldest traditions of this land and we Farmers were proudly showing our support for the office of Lord Mayor, the City of London and the Crown. As part of the Modern Livery Companies entry, the Farmers paraded – with sincere thanks to John Deere – a John Deere forage harvester to symbolize the highly technical nature of 21st century British farming – the harvester was decorated to emphasize the links between forage or grass, and cows and milk – with the slogan "British Farmers British Milk" and some facts about its ability to harvest feed which will produce 49 million pints of milk.

Parading for our Company and with the harvester were Master John Thorpe, Senior Warden Jeremy Courtney, Junior Warden Follett Balch and Assistant Lindsay Hargreaves. As the procession made its way through the rain-soaked streets, the marchers exchanged waves, cheers and 'banter' with the crowds who received us warmly with many shouts of support for 'our farmers'. And for those watching on television, the cameras homed in on the Farmers as they



Senior Warden Jeremy Courtney, The Master, Assistant Lindsey Hargreaves, Junior Warden Follett Balch

turned the corner past the Mansion House where the Lord Mayor and his guests watched and greeted the passing parade. *Great fun but we were also making a serious point about British production and food security.*

This is the third time we have taken a large farm machine to London for the parade in recent years, each time we have made an impact, with the Claas combine in 2006, Case Quadtrack and Gregoire-Besson plough in 2007 and this year with the John Deere forage harvester. We owe many thanks to those who have helped by providing machinery and drivers for the day, not forgetting also the significant task of transport into and out of the City.

The Farmers' presence is certainly noticed, and we have been encouraged not only by the reaction from the crowds but also from the Lord Mayor himself who has commented on the striking nature of our pieces. Our

exhibit is part of the Modern Livery Companies' entry, the Modern Livery Companies being the informal grouping of those chartered after 1927, beginning with the Master Mariners. In 2008, 22 of the Modern Livery Companies took part leading to a total presence of over 100 Liverymen, vintage vehicles and a jazz band.

On the day, the parade took the customary lunch break around Aldgate and while the Lord Mayor carried out his duties in the Royal Courts, the Modern Liverymen enjoyed a well earned glass of champagne and a sandwich on board HQS Wellington as guests of the Master Mariners. Revitalized, the second leg of the journey back to the Mansion House was truly rain soaked but the resolve of the crowds was uplifting and the buoyant and jubilant mood of the Lord Mayor's Show of 2008 was carried through to the end.

Lindsay Hargreaves - Assistant

THE COURT & COMMITTEE LADIES DINNER

This Company event, traditionally arranged early in the year of the new Master, was held at Middle Temple on 29th October.

Following drinks in the Smoking Room, we were given a fascinating guided tour of Middle Temple and treated to insights into its traditions, its more colourful past members and the role it plays today. The tour included the magnificent double hammer beamed roofed Middle Temple Hall built in 1570, where Queen Elizabeth I is reputed to have regularly dined and the newly completed *Twelfth Night* was performed for the first time in 1602.

Dinner was held in the lovely panelled Parliament Chamber, after which the Rt Hon Lord Judge, the Lord Chief Justice of England, and Wales and also the tennis partner of our Master, most eloquently addressed us. After welcoming us to Middle Temple, Lord Judge quoted from Shakespeare- The Second Part of King Henry VI - where Jack Cade's lads were reputed to have said "Lets Kill all the Lawyers" a phrase from the Middle Ages still used today when people want to 'get at their lawyers'. Lord Judge talked about the links between the Monarchy, the law and the land. Historically it was realized that the power of the Crown

had to be curtailed to allow no one to be above the law, and he reminded us that that the 'rule of law' matters and gives us the culture we enjoy in the UK today.



The Master, Susan Thorpe, Lord & Lady Judge



Middle Temple Hall



Middle Temple gardens

THE CHALLENGE OF RURAL LEADERSHIP COURSE

Education Committee visits Duchy College

In January, at the invitation of Duchy College, the Education Committee met at their new Food Technology Building in Cornwall. Commenting on the visit, Chairman Jeff Beer said, "This was a welcome opportunity for the Education Committee to see the facilities and meet the Chair of Governors, Sharon Dudden, the Principal of Duchy College, Liveryman, Andrew Counsell, The Head of the Rural Business School, Liveryman, Richard Soffe and the Administrator for the Challenge of Rural Leadership Course, Val Ryall who is our link to the College. The visit proved we have chosen the right organisation to fulfil our ambition of having the best rural leadership course in the country."

The dinner on Thursday evening allowed the Education Committee to further understand the aspirations of the College, with Principal Andrew Counsell declaring "We very much look forward to continuing to work with the Company to develop the programme and build on an ever-strengthening relationship."

The 2009 Course will be held at Dartington Hall, Totness, Devon.

Assistant & Chairman of the Education Committee - Jeff Beer



ADVANCED COURSE IN AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

“Exciting times” for the 59th Course in 2010 at The Royal Agricultural College



The Royal Agricultural College

Last October three potential providers were asked to make presentations to an interviewing panel of the Education Committee strengthened by the Senior Warden and two previous Course participants.

The leading contender after interview was then visited to make sure all they had said was true!!!! It certainly was. The Royal Agricultural College has been chosen to be the providers of our Course and they are already making sure that the Worshipful Company of Farmers Advanced Course in Agricultural Business Management in January 2010 will be better than ever.

The vast majority of the work in planning the Course detail and making sure the great tradition carried on was the responsibility of Liveryman Tim Calcutt, a delegate on the first Course in 1963, and he will always be remembered for the huge contribution he made until he so sadly died. He left no stone unturned and has provided the Royal with the history, which is so important to all previous course

participants. They will certainly feel part of the new phase in the future.

The Royal was chosen because of its commitment, enthusiasm, their “detailed homework” and their willingness for the future to be in a real partnership with the Company. They realize it is our course and are proud to have been chosen.

The Master was the Special Guest of the Principal of College, Professor Chris Gaskell at the Governors Meeting on March 3, when the arrangement was formally agreed. A letter of understanding will be signed at the June Livery Luncheon.

Professor John Alliston, Liveryman, Dean of The School of Agriculture, will be Course Director and the Course Co-ordinator will be Mrs Rhonda Thompson. The Course is in good hands. These are “exciting times” and I have no doubt we will all work extra hard to make sure all the work Tim put in will not be wasted.

For further information at this stage please contact Robert Cooper or myself. Robert has kindly stepped in to be the Liveryman with Special Responsibility for the Course and I have appreciated his efforts very much indeed.

Jeff Beer - Assistant & Chairman of the Education Committee

The 2010 Course dates are January 10 - 29 2010

Brochures and Application forms will be available from the college in May

20 September will be the closing dates for application and interviews will take place on October 7 at The Livery Hall.

THE CHALLENGE OF RURAL LEADERSHIP COURSE - 2 NOVEMBER TO 14 NOVEMBER

“A fantastic life changing experience”

Course participant Matthias Hochrein from Germany, was full of praise for the course, “We had a number of lectures about strategic management and creative thinking. These new concepts gave us a way to identify problems, to step back and to look at them from a wider angle and to work out how to find a practical solution.”

“Before the course began, questions like, “What have I to expect from the next two weeks?” or “Is it possible to learn leadership?” or “Is leadership a skill you are born with?” were going around in my head. On the way back to the airport I asked myself the same questions again. Is the Challenge of Rural Leadership more than a course over two weeks? The answer is clear: yes it is. It’s a fantastic experience. Is it one that changes our lives? Of course it is - it’s just up to us to do it!”

The 13th annual Worshipful Company of Farmers’ Challenge of Rural Leadership course took place in Devon in November. The two-week course, run by the Duchy College Rural Business School, is aimed at developing the skills required for successful leadership within the rural community and was an intensive, but enjoyable, learning experience for the 18 participants.



Project work



The Livery visit to the course

Speakers included MEP Neil Parish, who discussed the latest developments in EU agricultural policy; Jane King, Editor of the Farmers Weekly, who looked at the changing face of media; David Wilson, Farm Manager of Duchy Home Farm in Tetbury, who gave the organic perspective; Colonel Bryan Watters who focussed on military leadership and Jeff Beer of the Worshipful Company of Farmers who gave the international perspective. Course highlights included sessions on gene technology from Professor Mick Fuller of the University of Plymouth and leadership management with Professor Keith Grint. A presentation on the Nuffield Foundation was given by John Stones and Jeremy Tozer of the Centre of Leadership and Organisational Excellence led a practical session on leadership. The attendees also carried out a business case study, visited farm businesses and had a series of workshops on leadership and creative thinking.



Classroom learning

As well as an intensive series of lectures, participants also visited the Northcott Theatre in Exeter to see *Lord of the Flies*, which was followed by a discussion about the role of leadership and the questions raised by the play. They also had the opportunity to try abseiling on Dartmoor. A visit to the ITV studios in Plymouth and the opportunity to practice both television and radio interview techniques, as well as guidance on preparing press releases, meant they learnt how to deliver messages to the media successfully, thereby educating the public on rural issues from an industry perspective.

The Master, Junior Warden and members of the Education Committee and Livery joined the course delegates on the final afternoon for the traditional ‘wash-up’ session. The course concluded with a Gala Dinner at which it was evident that great camaraderie and lifelong friendships had been forged at the 13th Course.

Gemma Eales - Duchy College Rural Business School.

The 2009 Course dates are November 8 – 20 2009

Brochures and Application forms are available from Duchy College. Please contact Val Ryall, Course Administrator on Tel: 01579 372368 E-mail: val.ryall@duchy.ac.uk

Interviews will take place on 16 June at The Livery Hall.



Anne Courtney, Senior Warden
Jeremy Courtney, Susan Thorpe,
The Master, Libby Balch, Junior
Warden Follett Balch



Grocers' Hall

ANNUAL LIVERY BANQUET - 19 January 2009

John Thorpe, the Master, conceived a banquet that brought together strands of his own life. As speaker he invited Mr Charles Bush, Headmaster of Oundle School – his old school. That led to the selection of Grocers' Hall, the school having close and historic links with the Worshipful Company of Grocers. Everything else fell into place!



The Master with the ATC cadets and their squadron officer

On arrival, cadets from the Air Training Corps (ATC) - the latest military affiliation of the Company - met us. Programmes in hand we were received by the Master and Wardens and their Ladies in the "Piper Room". This contains three tapestries designed by John Piper depicting in brilliant colour the spices in which the early members of the Grocers Company traded.

The summons to the Livery Hall was sounded on the 1458 bell now hung in the entrance hall and previously in the Church of All Hallows. The present Hall is the Fifth built for the Grocers Company which was founded in 1345 and ranks second of the 108 Livery Companies. We entered the Livery Hall through the restored wrought iron gates made for the Second Hall after the Great Fire in 1666. The walls are lined with crimson silk and the three chandeliers are Venetian. We filled the Livery Hall to its capacity of 160. As we settled down to an excellent meal featuring West Country Lamb, the band played and conversation flowed.

We sang the Grace from the 1545 Laudi Spirituali, enjoyed the Ceremony of the Loving Cup and sang the Farmers Boy. Two of our own Liverymen were trusted with microphones to lead this – Andrew Brown and Julian Sayers – and in such good voice were they and the assembled company that we did an encore! Following the toast Jeremy Courtney, Senior Warden, welcomed the official guests – Squadron Leader Dan Mihailovic from Middlesex Wing of the ATC; Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher of the CLA; the Chairman of the Farmers Club, our own Liveryman John Reynolds; and Alderman Nick Anstee of the Butchers Company whom we expect to be the next Lord Mayor. The Master then introduced the speaker.

Headmaster Bush suggested he had been invited to speak and respond on behalf of the guests due to the Farmers Company's strong commitment to education and Oundle School's links with the Grocers Company. He had contacted the Master's former Housemaster to learn more of the

"young Thorpe's" school career and shared some of his exploits with us including letters to the school magazine concerning hair oil. Charles Bush said he was pleased his surname would shortly cease association with the name of the President of the United States as unflattering comparisons had been made.

It is of course a risk inviting the Head of your old school to speak, and in thanking Charles Bush for his hugely entertaining speech – which had of course contained snippets about the school years of young Thorpe – the Master commented that he had enjoyed some parts less than others! As the Master sat down the brass quintet of the Orchestra of the City of London struck up its finale, the pieces introduced by Frank Renton, well known to listeners to Radio Two's Band programmes. All in all, it was another much-enjoyed banquet in Farmers' Company style.

David King- Clerk

Images can be found on www.sharpphoto.co.uk



Past Master Michael Foreman with the late Tim Calcutt



The Orchestra of the City of London



2 DECEMBER LUNCHEON

A Passion for the Royal Parks, “the lungs of London”

There was a full house of Liverymen at our December Luncheon. Peter Ellwood CBE, formerly Chairman of ICI and CEO of Lloyds TSB, spoke to us in his capacity as Chairman of the Royal Parks Charitable Foundation. Mostly acquired by Henry VIII, there are eight Royal Parks covering 5,000 acres of historic parkland with more than 130,000 trees, 50 miles of boundary walls and hundreds of buildings, statues, and memorials. Described by Samuel Pepys as “the lungs of London” they give a fascinating insight into London's heritage.

The Royal Parks Charitable Foundation was formed in 2003 to raise the profile of the parks and raise money for special projects and capital works – it costs £30 million to run the Royal Parks. Property rents have been assessed and put on a more commercial basis and buildings have been refurbished to provide more public facilities like art galleries. Big events have been arranged to achieve Peter Ellwood's aim of sharing his passion for the Royal parks and making their peace, tranquillity and timelessness more widely enjoyed.



Greenwich Park, the oldest Royal Park. View from the Greenwich Royal Observatory hill: the park, the Royal Naval College, and the River Thames.

Livery Visit to Surrey Docks Farm

Surrey Docks is just over 2 acres in size and its role is to work with the local community and educate them about farming and food production.

Although the main role is to educate children, visiting with friends and family or through their schools, adults with learning disabilities are also a major part of the operation.

A visit to Surrey Docks Farm is always an interesting and humbling experience. Eight of us travelled on the Thames Clipper from Embankment to Canary Wharf then across to the Hilton on a crisp 3rd December morning. An experience in itself – seeing London from the water is much more interesting than travelling by tube!

The farm was in celebratory mood as the week before they had “won” nearly £58,000 in the peoples millions – a lottery based win – with the local public voting for their favourite.



Liverymen in the outdoor classroom



The Master and Assistant Rosie Carne with Wilma



Claire Elson showing us around

Kath is the general manager at the farm – she was away on a training course that day so Livestock Co-ordinator Claire Elson, who is in charge of the animals, very ably showed us round. Her dedication to her work is second to none. All the animals looked healthy and happy.

Wilma and Willow, the two red poll heifers generously donated by Liveryman John Brooks to mark his fifty years with the Company, were in “blooming” shape and have since produced two healthy calves – Jay and Rowland, both male which is a bit of a disappointment. Willow is acting as mother to both calves as Wilma doesn't seem to have taken to motherhood!

After a tour of the animals we looked in on the adult learning programmes – where adults with learning difficulties are helped to produce and grow simple things.

After a chat with the resident blacksmith we had a constructive chat to see how “We” as a livery can be of benefit to the farm. The lottery money is being put towards buying a horsebox, which will be adapted to take the farm to the “community” Their wish list request from us this year is for some collapsible fencing, which can be used in conjunction with the horsebox.

The visit concluded with some very good bangers and mash – made by a local butcher from pigs reared on the farm, washed down with the odd glass of wine!!

It was encouraging to see the farm in such good shape – especially after the fire damage they had last year. The new building hopefully will be started fairly soon.

For those who have not yet visited I do encourage you to make an effort – the next visit is pencilled in for the summer.

Jill Willows - Liveryman

CITY FOOD LECTURE 2009

“Consumers, Competition and a Changing World”

Guildhall again played host to the 8th City Food Lecture, promoted by all seven food related Livery Companies. Past Master HRH The Princess Royal, Livery and City of London representatives and leading figures from across the food industry gathered to listen to Sir Terry Leahy, Chief Executive of Tesco plc and keynote speaker at the annual event. Sir Terry's lecture, ‘Consumers, Competition and a Changing World’, sought to illustrate how Britain's market economy could attempt to weather the economic recession through a policy of trust in the consumer. Also on the programme was a panel of food industry experts, including Peter Kendall, President of the National Farmers Union, Professor Lord Krebs, Principal of Jesus College Oxford, and nutrition and public health advisor Dr Susan Jebb. Sir Stuart Hampson, President of the Employee Ownership Association chaired the panel session, which was followed by a buffet supper in the Old Library.

Sir Terry Leahy began by outlining Tesco's longstanding company policy of trust in the consumer and the power of the free market. Outlining the lessons learnt from past mistakes where Tesco followed the lead of other leading retailers, Sir Terry explained how the company succeeded when it refocused on what he termed ‘sovereign consumer needs’, introducing customer loyalty policies such as the Tesco Clubcard scheme. To conclude, he outlined how the Tesco's approach would change during economic recession, in short; very little! Arguing that the underlying values of the consumer would not change during these testing times, Leahy posed that the most successful retailers

were those able to change fast to reflect their consumers' business needs. He also emphasised the importance of passing on the price drops in commodity goods to customers, urging the government to freeze retail related taxes and refrain from issuing excessive and restrictive trade regulations.

Sir Terry then faced challenging questions from the panel and audience members alike. Professor Lord Krebs agreed that major food retailers had succeeded in bringing the customer ever cheaper, more varied goods, but questioned why this growth could not have been achieved within a sustainable framework. He suggested that in prioritising the needs of the consumer, Tesco was overlooking the uncomfortable truth that the public are far more likely to prioritise short-term gain, to long-term environmental disadvantage.

Dr Susan Jebb noted the huge responsibility for public health that supermarkets already carried, playing a directive role in determining the diet of the nation. She continued, describing the current economic climate as a challenging time for businesses, but also a window of opportunity for companies such as Tesco to prove that, without regulation, they can still be trusted to work towards improving public health.

Peter Kendall reinforced Lord Krebs' fear that measures taken to suit the customer in the short term may be damaging long term solutions, to both food production and climate change. Speaking with regard to the farming industry, Peter Kendall noted how the lack of planning, so necessary for long term stability, was undermining the confidence of agricultural suppliers.

At the post-event supper, it was the responsibility of the Farmers Company to host Past Master HRH The Princess Royal and The Master had the honour and pleasure to accompany her as she circulated amongst the guests.

James Craig- Duchy College Rural Business School.

For more information:
www.cityfoodlecture.com





THE HENMAN AWARDS

My Australian farming experience in brief

"It would be really easy for me to write all that I have learnt from this trip, and could write many pages! What really stands out to me is how my enthusiasm has been fuelled, to continue and develop my farming career. I have learnt that my farming career doesn't just include what happens on my own work place, it should include working with other farmers and organisations to improve my farming knowledge, and to improve theirs as well. Every day was an opportunity to learn something new. Working with a farmer who has such a positive out look for the industry meant that it rubbed off on me. It was encouraging that what ever was happening on the farm, my opinion would be asked. To be able to discuss what we were doing, rather than just doing the job, meant that I learnt reasons for the work and why it needed to be done to improve the farm."

This trip has produced many friends and happy memories. It has given me the opportunity to build my confidence and knowledge within the industry".



The Snell's farm 700 acres, split between three farms, set up with a border check flood irrigation watering system. The home farm milks 250 Friesian cows through a 20/40 swing over milking parlour. The cows are fed crushed wheat or oats- depending on availability -whilst being milked, with wheat and canola hay fed in the paddocks. Each paddock is used on average once every two weeks depending on grass growth and watering.

While on the farm my main jobs were milking, feeding hay to the paddocks, setting electric fences and feeding calves. Other jobs were fencing, taking calves to be weighed for selling, woodcutting and general farm and machinery maintenance. In addition, I was involved in laser grading and preparation for sowing- with the ground cultivated, disced twice and then sown. The land that was laser graded had to have all the fences, existing tracks and pipe work removed, and old trees cut back to allow for water channels.

Laser grading allows for a more efficient and managed watering system. The ground is levelled at a 3% fall away from a main water channel. Paddocks are then formed with ridges so that the water can flow down a controlled area of land and is able to be flooded across the paddocks with excess water collected in dams and re-used.

I also had the opportunity to attend trips and presentations within the farming community. These included talks by Mr Snell about his recent Nuffield Scholarship on farming succession, Victorian Farming Federation meetings, the AGM of the Victoria Nuffield scholars, and a presentation on the running costs of farms at the local agricultural college.



The main "off farm visit" was to the Bega cheese company. Bega cheese owns the majority of shares in Tatura milk, who we supplied. We visited their factory - a great chance to see a raw material processed into a product. This visit allowed me to meet local milk suppliers and representatives of the milk company, and gave the chance to visit several other dairy farms. I was able to see how share farming and farm modernisation in farming practices has enabled the farms to cope with on going droughts and costs.

I had the chance to look after the farm for two weeks while the family were away, a great opportunity to take responsibility for the daily tasks on the farm. It gave me an insight into the daily management of running a dairy herd and a greater understanding about the farm and its goals for the future.

A report from Henman Scholar Peter French who went to Victoria in Australia in March 2008 to work on Messrs J & A Snell's dairy farm

Awarded since 1972, Henman Awards provide financial assistance to fund overseas travel to assist young men and women to gain practical experience for their agricultural or horticultural careers.

Past Master Robert J Harrison 1926 - 2008

Bob Harrison at the time of his death last August was the longest serving liveryman having been clothed on 15 December 1953. From his home at Randswood he farmed extensively in South Cambridgeshire and was one of a group of farmers who joined the Company in the early years including amongst others Peter Taylor, Jim Clayton, Bill Hamilton, Geoff Duke, Keith Roberts and Grant Buck who were collectively, and maybe unfairly, referred to as the Newmarket mafia.

His service to the Company extended over many years. Elected to the Court in 1968 he progressed through the posts of junior and senior warden to Master in 1979-1980. A highlight during his year was presenting Prince Charles with his livery scroll. Earlier he served on the committee invited to consider the admission of women to the livery, at that time a contentious issue but resolved and adopted, albeit nem. con. to the advantage of the Company.

He served as Almoner from 1986-1997, a sole responsibility before the

formation of an Almoners Committee, and established a pattern of prioritised giving which remains to this day. In particular with a life long commitment to the RABI he established with their trustees an understanding that the Company was both donor and, if needed receiver of funds. The RABI was one of two chosen charities at his memorial service held at St.Andrews, West Wrating on 19 August with many members of the livery in the large congregation.

In the early 1980's the Company's long held desire for its own Hall had become a reality but for this to happen an appeal for funds was needed to meet the cost of fixtures and fittings. Bob chaired the appeal committee and through his cajoling, charm, contacts and efficiency the money was subscribed.

He served as Deputy Master 1996-1998. Through the years Maureen wonderfully supported him particularly during his Mastership when she is remembered for preparing the horseradish sauce for over 200

guests at the livery banquet! They were a couple with great charm and will be remembered with affection.

He was a fine shot and fished throughout his life while also devoting tremendous energy to the farming community in the eastern counties, particularly his own county. He was a past chairman of the Cambridge county branch of the NFU, served as a branch delegate at headquarters where he chaired the machinery committee when Past Master Lord Plumb was President. He served as a JP for many years.

Through his fifty-five years in the livery he was a friend to all and played a significant role in shaping the destiny of the Company.

Our sympathy goes to Maureen and to his son John, a liveryman, and their daughter, Tessa.

Arnold Hitchcock CBE - Senior Past Master

LONDON MATTERS

Livery Sayings Of London

SAYING	LIVERY	HISTORY
"If the cap fits"	Parish Clerks- @ election counts	Try the cap on eligible candidates and choose the one it fits
"6's & 7's"	Skinners/ Merchant Taylors	Alternating years after man drowned in the Lord Mayors Show in 1575. By order of the Lord Mayor
"A bakers dozen" (13)	Bakers	Due to fear of prosecution for short weight, bakers put 13 to each dozen rather than be underweight
"Sent to Coventry"	Older Livery	If a Liveryman was excluded for bad behaviour, the nearest alternative Livery was in Coventry



Tom Copas - Immediate Past Master