



La Flèche

The Newsletter of the Worshipful Company of Fletchers

NEW MASTER and WARDENS

The Master - Peter Scott



Upper Warden
Ian MacLellan

Renter Warden
Captain Tony Poulter OBE RN

The Court of Assistants

Deputy Master - Desmond Clark

Past Masters

C J Brown
J R Fenner OBE
J L Dumbrell
F A Neal CMG
Alderman D H Wootton

Assistants

Alderman B R H Hall
J R Owen-Ward Deputy
Captain D C Goodall RN
Mrs R Agutter
A C McMillan (from July 07)

Other Past Masters retain their positions as Honorary Assistants

PETER SCOTT - OUR NEW MASTER

Peter Scott was born in London in 1948, and despite many moves with family and in the course of his career, has maintained a close involvement with London ever since. His father was in the Foreign Service, with postings in Finland, Lebanon, The Congo, The Sudan and Norway, but Peter returned to England as a boarder at Winchester College, and to spend holidays at the family cottage in the Lake District, which has given him an enduring love of that part of the world. A history degree at Baliol College Oxford was followed by a year at The Fletcher School at Tufts/Harvard Universities, the leading graduate school of international relations in the United States. Such intensive education and training well equipped Peter for the first stage of his career, eleven years in what is now the Department for International Development, dealing with British aid to developing countries. This period included three years in Brussels in the British Representation to the European Union, dealing with relations between the EU and the developing world.

Peter left the civil service in 1982 to join the merchant bank Samuel Montagu and Co. (now part of HSBC Investment Bank), where his experience and expertise provided valued support for the Company's entrance to the business of advising the governments and central banks of developing countries on their international financial affairs. In 1986, Peter left Montagu's to join MMD Consultancy, where he has been ever since. MMD is an independent firm of business economics consultants, now based in Hatton Garden. As a Director of MMD, Peter has built up its practice in advising governments in the UK and abroad, in addition to public corporations, Regional Development Agencies, economic regulatory agencies, as well as private companies of all sizes from start-ups to household names. From the mid-'80s to the mid-'90s, he worked on six privatizations. His current and recent clients include Royal Mail and the RDAs for London and North-East England. MMD is now almost entirely virtual: that is, it puts together appropriate teams for particular projects from a pool of long-term associates, but does not itself have staff.

Peter has lived in north London for most of his working life, moving from Camden Town to Muswell Hill when he re-married in 2004 (Peter's first wife passed away in 1999). Peter and Toni have five children between them, ranging in age from seventeen (the last one still at home, in his last year at school) to twenty-six. He served as a School Governor in Kentish Town, and is an active supporter of RNLI, and has served for six years on the Board of the Intermediate Technology Development Group, facilitating delivery of appropriate technologies to developing countries.

Toni and Peter spend what time they can walking and sailing in the Lake District, where the family cottage, between Coniston and Wastwater, is still going (and still without electricity!), and in Toni's beloved Wales. Peter was introduced to our Company Livery by his old and valued friend Ernie Cole in July 1992. Over his Master's Year, he is keen to develop still further the Company's charitable links, and also to encourage younger people to join the Company. To this end, his year's social programme will include a few more modest events at the Hall, at family-friendly times. And not least, contacts will be nurtured between the Company and the Fletcher School of Tufts/Harvard Universities - surely founded by some member of our Ancient Company (though quite by whom your Company Archivist has not yet been able to ascertain!).

MVR

DIARY 2007-2008

- 6 Jun 07 Talk by Vice-Chancellor of City University in the Hall
- 14 Jun 07 Joint Dinner, Bowyers host in Founders' Hall
- 25 Jun 07 Election of the Sheriffs & Luncheon
- 3 Jul 07 Visit to the College of Arms
- 12 Jul 07 Court Meeting and Court Dinner
- 19 Jul 07 Fletchers' Golf Day at Worpleton
- 24 Jul 07 Joint shoot with the Bowyers
- 1 Sep 07 Fletchers' Day at Burnham
- 10 Sep 07 Globe Theatre & pre-theatre supper
- 13-16 Sep 07 Weekend away in Brussels
- 1 Oct 07 Election of Lord Mayor & Luncheon
- 12 Oct 07 Court Meeting, Thanksgiving Service & Luncheon in the Hall
- 25 Oct 07 Talk by Jon Snow in the Hall
- 10 Nov 07 Lord Mayor's Show & lunch at the Hall
- 20 Nov 07 Livery Dinner
- 13 Dec 07 Fletchers' Luncheon
- 16 Dec 07 Carol Service St Bartholomew the Great
- 10 Jan 08 Court Meeting and Court Dinner
- 6 Feb 08 Ladies' Banquet
- 12 Mar 08 Visit Sir John Soane Museum (mid day)
- 7 Mar 08 United Guilds Service St Paul's and Luncheon
- 17 Apr 08 Installation Court and Livery Dinner

LADIES BANQUET



The Ladies Banquet was held at the Farmers and Fletchers Hall on Wednesday 7th February 2007.

This year the Lord Mayor's overseas visits prevented him from attending but we invited Mr Alderman, Sheriff and Fletcher David Lewis to be our principal guest and took the opportunity to celebrate his Shrievalty and his coming Mayoralty next year.

He and Theresa and Anne Regan arrived in the Mayoral limousine and were greeted by the Master and Wardens and their Ladies with posies for the visiting Ladies in traditional manner for a Mayoral Party.

Luckily the Master had seen a copy of the speeches and he was able to use extracts from 'Agincourt' by Juliet Barker to refute the Sheriff's claims about the significance of the Welsh archers in the English Army of Henry V!



The January Court Dinner

At the Court which preceded the Dinner, Mrs Lesley Agutter was admitted to the Court as an Assistant. Lesley is well known to most of having been a Steward at many Company events.



Installation of Leslie Agutter as a Court Assistant

The Dinner which followed had an archery theme, best described in the words of the Master. English archery's most famous contribution to warfare in Europe came in the 14th and 15th centuries and we should remember that regular archery practice was compulsory for all males and in 1478 Parliament forbade activities which might distract them from practising, including dice, quoits, bowls, chequer-board and football.

Since the glory days of both the Bowyers and the Fletchers ended in a puff of smoke from the gun that replaced the need for bows and arrows, our Fletchers Company no longer performs its original function of protecting the interests of the makers of arrows. So what links do we have with archery today? It is this question which partially prompted me to give this dinner its archery theme. The Fletchers now support archery as a sport – a sport that is open to both the able-bodied and the disabled on a virtually equal basis and our charitable sponsorship confines itself almost entirely to archery for the disabled. This support manifests itself in a variety of ways.

With the invaluable help of the Royal Toxophilite Society we stage a shoot every May for Disabled archers at the Royal Tox HQ, Archers Lodge at Burnham Beeches. At the same location each September we host an annual open shoot. The London Archers loan us their facilities at Perk's Field, Kensington Gardens for a practice day of archery, an opportunity to sharpen our skills in preparation for the next event in our archery calendar which is the annual shoot against the Bowyers. This is held in the east moat of the Tower of London, with the kind permission of the Governor. We obviously didn't hone our skills sufficiently in my year - I'll not dwell on the outcome but just say "well done Richard, and your merry men."

We evaluate the quality of arrows submitted for appraisal by members of the Craft Guild of Traditional Bowyers and Fletchers and one of their members makes our Company's Master's Prize Arrow which is awarded annually to the outstanding cadet in each of our three affiliates from the armed services. The Craft Guild itself was formed by Hugh Soar, author and collector, and a Freeman of this Company, and his wife, Veronica-Mae, also a Freeman, is the present Clerk to the Guild. We have a Charitable Trust which through the Charity Committee and Charity Trustees makes donations in general terms to City based charities and also assists archery for the disabled and sponsors archers at events such as the Paralympics where the British team has had much success. Last year's National Indoor Championships of British Blind Sport were named the Fletchers' Championships and our present Deputy Master David Wootton was their Lord Paramount for the day. I am also pleased to announce that only today we have agreed donations to 3 individual disabled archers and confirmed our support for Wheelpower, British Blind Sport and the British Paralympic Association.



Christopher Jury demonstrates Fletching

The effectiveness of what we do depends on the strength of our charitable fund. Most members of the livery contribute annually to the fund but an imminent mailing will include details of other schemes, including legacies, to enable us to support more disabled archers.

Some of the disabled archers whom we do support have done well in competition against able-bodied archers and have told me that their opponents have suggested that the wheelchair archers have an advantage by having a more stable stance. British Blind Sport have also had interesting times and will at last be included in the Paralympic Games. The reason this has taken so long is because of the arguments that have raged over differing degrees of visual impairment. As a result all the visually impaired archers will now have to wear blindfolds.

Lilleshall 2007

The Company was pleased to sponsor the Fletchers VI National Indoor Archery Championships organised by the archery section of British Blind Sport once again this year. Lilleshall National Sports Centre is located just outside Telford in Shropshire set in extensive grounds much improved

and developed in the last 50 - 60 years.



Held on 31st March and 1st April, the event attracted well known names in the field of Visually Impaired archery. There was a total of 19 competitors, six

of whom were using equipment we had provided: Wayne Thomson, Terry Ottewell, David Schofield, Roger Rees-Evans, Melissa Bubb and Dorothy Cooper. Most had travelled from far and wide the previous day to make the most of the required early start on Saturday when the competition began in earnest. A double Portsmouth round was shot, five dozen arrows in the morning and the other half after lunch, a maximum of 120 arrows.

Steve Prowse managed an impressive score of 1123 with 43 golds. A total of four national records were broken within the 11 class categories of sight impairment from totally blind upwards. Overall the judges, one national and one regional, were well impressed with the personal improvements this year. Special mention was made of Dorothy Cooper, Wayne Thompson and Melissa Bubb. The Lord Paramount this year was our Master Des Clark who presented the prizes at the end of the day. His speech was



well received and invitations were extended to visit St Dunstons and also East Midlands Archery Society Inter Counties Championships on the occasion of their 50th anniversary on 7th September 2008. Use was made of our new banner this year for the first time, which attracted much attention especially from those who could see! A fun day but as a demonstration of external publicity for our company we were well received and made very welcome.

Chris Brown

Visit to 41-42 Cloth Fair

Some 28 Fletchers were welcomed with refreshments by Penny and Andrea and were then taken on a tour in two groups by Andrea. 41-42 Cloth Fair is a unique property in London both for its architecture and its age. It is the sole residential survivor of the development of the fairground of St. Bartholomew initiated by Robert, third Baron Rich, in 1583. It stands on the part of this early development known as the Square in Launders Green, (part of the laundry ground of the Monastery). The "Square" is edged by Cloth Fair on the south, by Cloth Court on the west and north and by Sun Court on the east. This block is described in the survey of 1616 as 'containing eleven houses with a court in the middle, benefiting of a well or pump of very pure water' formerly used to supply the water to the Monastery laundry. Of these eleven houses only the property known as 41 and 42 Cloth Fair survives; the original structure is much unchanged since its first lease of occupation of 1614 and the pre-Elizabethan well walled in on the north east corner of its basement still exists.

By 1929 all other Elizabethan and Jacobean properties had been demolished by the City Corporation as part of their sanitary scheme. The only survivor was this property which was also to be demolished having received a dangerous structure notice by the City Corporation. It was saved, made secure and lovingly restored by John Seely and Paul Paget to become their residence and architectural studio until 1978. After that the property suffered as much from the attentions of successive owners as from neglect and was in need of significant TLC when acquired by Penny and Andrea in 1997.

The task to restore such a delicate and important structure was daunting. It took twelve months to deal with all external works. These consisted of completely overhauling the roofs, stitching, rebuilding and re-pointing the brickwork, re-leading and restoring the windows (many of which have engraved signatures of well known dignitaries in the world of politics and the arts), repairing the half timber wall, re-painting in colours less frivolous and more akin to the period of the property.

A further twelve months were spent dealing with all the interior work, repairing structural timbers, tying back the bay windows, stripping, restoring and retying the main staircase, renewing all services, removing any water based heating system, dealing with wet and dry rot, plastering and general decorating. All original floors had to be repaired and re-laid and the whole internal timber framework treated against heavy infestation of woodworm and wood-boring beetles. The open courtyard, a source of heavy water leakage to the basement, was glazed over to create a conservatory link to the single storey rear extension. In addition bathrooms and a kitchen were created to suit the new residential layout

All those who attended will confirm that the house is fascinating not only in an historical context but also for the manner of its refurbishment. Penny and Andrea considered it important that the residential element was preserved as the building features some remarkably well proportioned rooms designed and built to be lived in. Certainly, we felt that we had visited a home and not a museum.

Des Clark

THE INSTALLATION DINNER

THURSDAY 19 APRIL 2007

The Installation Dinner for our new Master, Peter Scott, was the twentieth to be held at Farmers' and Fletchers' Hall, and it was indeed a fittingly memorable occasion. A splendid meal centred on pan-seared breast of corn-fed chicken stuffed with brie was enhanced by musical rendition provided by the pianist Ivan Kiuwuwa, appearing by kind permission of the Principal of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.



After the Loyal and Civic Toasts, the Upper Warden, Ian MacLellan, rose to give an amusing and enthralling speech as he proposed the Toast to The Guests. He greeted Lord Stevenson, whose outstanding business career had been combined, Ian noted, with several decades of public service, not least as Chairman of the House of Lords Appointments Commission, Chair of Tate Gallery Trustees, and a Director of Glyndeboune. Ian recalled that both he and his father (Past-Master Pat MacLellan) bank with the Bank of Scotland, of which Lord Stevenson is a Governor, and when Pat saw his local bank manager in Glasgow just after the War, he was advised

that the manager was moving to the Far East i.e. to Edinburgh!

Welcoming Professor Tom Schuller, the Upper Warden reminded us of Tom's long involvement with lifelong learning, both in the UK and abroad - his early career included four years at the OECD in the 1970s. Formerly Dean of the Faculty of Continuing Education at Birkbeck, Professor Schuller is, Ian recalled, author or editor of some fifteen books in this vital field. The Upper Warden then permitted us a glimpse of his own involvement with lifelong-learning, when he studied to take up a career in Chinese Medicine, to the puzzlement of his little daughter, who thought her daddy far too old to be going to school! Rising to respond to the Toast on behalf of The Guests, Professor Schuller drew on his knowledge of and friendship with our new Master, to define an analogy between Peter Scott and - an arrow. Both the man and the arrow have - he reminded us - a sharp (i.e. incisive) but small (i.e. modest) head; a straight (not deviating, loyal) shaft, and feathers/vanes, to keep everyone on a steady trajectory. Surely, he enthused, with such a combination of qualities, our Company would be in safe hands over the ensuing year.



Lord Stevenson of Coddham's entirely extempore speech forcefully proposed the traditional Toast to The Worshipful Company of Fletchers "Root and branch may it continue to flourish for ever" coupled with the name of the Master. Peter had been for him a greatly valued friend over many years, all the more esteemed for his modesty and lack of the skills of self-publicizing. Although Lord Stevenson had had many involvements with the Square Mile of the City of London over the years, attending this Installation Dinner for his old friend Peter was, he noted, his first close encounter with the City Livery, but one that he greatly enjoyed.

Replying, the Master announced with sorrow the recent tragic death of Per-Olaf Larsson, a keen Company member and one of its Stewards. There was then a brief period of silence in Per-Olaf's memory.

On a happier note, the Master then welcomed Ernie Cole, in his day the best banker in the best bank in the City, who had first introduced him to the Company, and Past Master Clive Coward, his joint Sponsor, and Maurice Hart, who was the Master at the time of Peter's admission. Greeting his family, and in particular his wife Toni, the Master then turned to his special guests Dennis Stevenson, a colleague, friend, and wise counsellor for twenty years, and Tom Schuller, whose friendship and support went back even longer. For the evening itself, the Master thanked the Gallant and Learned Clerk and the Hall Manager for organizing so efficiently the Dinner, Past Master Alistair Mackenzie for his help in selecting the wines, and especially Ivan Kiuwuwa, our pianist for the evening. He then welcomed the Company's newest Liveryman, Commander Tim Eltringham, noting as he did so the wide range of members' personal and professional backgrounds, that inform and enrich the good fellowship enjoyed at all our Company's social events.

The ensuing year could be a momentous one for the Fletchers, as Alderman and Sheriff David Lewis might be the next Lord Mayor, forty years since a Fletcher last occupied that distinguished and honourable position.

On a more parochial level, the Master excited us all with details of the varied range of events that he had chosen for his Year, from visits to the College of Arms and the Globe Theatre, to a weekend in Brussels. He particularly noted two informal evening functions, affording younger Liverymen and Freemen the opportunity to meet distinguished guests. The Court will be looking this year at ways of involving more of the membership in the affairs of the Company.

Finally and crucially, Peter paid tribute to the immediate Past Master, Des Clark, and all that he had achieved over the past year for the Company, with an engaging and varied programme of events, so well supported by our members. He knew that Des's temporary indisposition over the concluding few weeks of his Mastership will not mar in any way our memory of a wonderful Company year. That Des had recovered sufficiently to attend this Dinner was a source of great pleasure to all.

Peter then presented Des with his Past Master's badge, and also a new Company jewel, a Deputy Master's badge. This had been generously presented to the Company that evening by Past master Fred Neal to acknowledge the support given to the Master by the Immediate Past Master in the ensuing year.



The assembled company then adjourned for a stirrup cup, to share both enthusiasm and excitement at what seemed to all to have been a worthy send-off for and celebration of the new Master's year.

MVR

OUR NEW LIVERYMEN

ADMITTED 13 OCTOBER 2006

Michael Holden, FRICS, spent most of his career in the City of London, before moving to Mayfair and latterly to Cambridge. He has been both managing partner and senior partner of a long-established major practice of Chartered Surveyors, and a consultant to Carter Jonas, advising both college and private clients.

A Liveryman of the Chartered Surveyors' Company, Michael sat on the Investment and Financial Skills Panel of the Bank of England. Eighteen years a member of the RICS City Branch, he was also elected as its Treasurer.

Michael is a founder member of the Investment Surveyors' Forum, which furthers education and research to promote and sustain knowledge throughout the profession. He has now retired from the "mainstream" work, and only advises a few local clients, releasing quality time to pursue personal interests in music, art, wining and dining, travel, and a bit of gardening thrown in for relaxation.



ADMITTED 11 JANUARY 2007



John Tomlinson CC

Since retiring in 1995 from a very varied career in the top echelons of BT (for example as Finance Director International and Enterprises Divisions), **John Tomlinson** has become involved in two new worlds, that of the City and a widely different area - mental health.

A long-time Barbican resident, John chairs the Cromwell Tower's Residents Committee, and has been a Common Councilman since 2004. He is a Trustee of the Cripplegate Foundation, and a Governor of the Lady Eleanor Holles School.

John graduated MSc in Mental Health from King's College London in 2003, and has volunteered in a specialist clinic at Guy's Hospital. He recently trained at St. Thomas's Hospital in a specialist therapy, addressing problem solution in individual people's lives. Since 2003, he has been Honorary Treasurer of the national mental health charity, Mind.

John and his wife Paula both enjoy travelling, with visits to Paula's family in the USA, but also to Europe, particularly France. They also have a cottage in north Norfolk, so split their time between there, the City, and the wider world.

ADMITTED 19 APRIL 2007

Tim Eltringham enjoyed thirty-two years' service in the Royal Navy, joining as an Engineering Officer, but after three years transferring to the Fleet Air Arm as a helicopter pilot.

His very varied naval career then included two years at sea as a frigate flight commander, commanding a mine-hunter, and as CO of the Commando Helicopter Force in the Middle East during the 1990-91 Gulf War and the subsequent Kurdish crisis, for which he was awarded his OBE.

He then graduated from the Joint Staff College, and moved to the Ministry of Defence, first supporting helicopter deployment programmes, followed by three years teaching a wide range of NATO and former Soviet officers.

Tim now heads the Defence Consultancy area for MASS Consultants. He and Jane live in Potton, and enjoy travel, wining and dining.



RAF Northolt Police Dog Section



Corporal Street of the RAF Police Dog Section at RAF Northolt writes to let us know how they fared in this year's Provost Marshal (RAF), UK Dog Trials. The trial this year was held at RAF Henlow, Bedfordshire, over the period of 28 Aug - 03 Sep 06. To qualify for the finals week the teams need to compete in one of the 4 regional trials and finish in the top 3. This year, for the first time in RAF Northolt's history, the Dog section were lucky enough to have 2 teams qualify for the final week. They were Cpl Stephen Rankin with Air dog Charlie, and Cpl Helen Strange with Air dog Ben.

During the final week the teams compete in a number of operational tests ranging from detecting an intruder in an open area at night, to protecting RAF aircraft from sabotage, as well as carrying out control and agility exercises and attack work. The judging of this trial is carried out by 2 very senior Dog Inspectors from the RAF and an Army Veterinary Officer. On completion of a very tough week against very stiff competition Cpl Strange gained 3rd place overall and was awarded Most Meritorious Handler. Cpl Rankin finished in 11th place and was awarded The Best Turned out Team. This was an excellent result for RAF Northolt and all the Dog section and has given us something to aim for and better next year.

SEA TIME IN HMS SOUTHAMPTON

The Master led a party of ten for a day at sea with our affiliated Royal Naval ship, HMS Southampton.

HMS Southampton is the fourth ship in a relatively short period of affiliations with the Royal Navy. HMS Sheffield (a Type 42 Destroyer) was sunk during the Falklands conflict. The baton was passed to HMS ARROW (a Type 21 Frigate) which was commanded during the Falklands campaign by Captain (then Commander) Paul Bootherstone (whose widow, Janet, is a liveryman). Her final RN Commanding Officer was Captain (then Commander) David Goodall. When ARROW was sold, HMS SHEFFIELD became 'our' ship, until she was paid off, when we gained HMS SOUTHAMPTON (David Goodall was her Flight Commander in 1982-3).



Mr Desmond Clark

Miss Carolyn Clark

Mr Ian MacLellan

Mr Scrymgeour Hewett

Mr Adrian Scott-Knight

Mr Guy Kingsbury

Mr John Leatherdale

Mr Cliff Swift

Mrs Pauline Swift MBE

Captain Michael
Johnson



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