

Fletchers' Trust Agincourt 600 Essay Competition

To mark the end of our year commemorating the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Agincourt and to build links with the City of London schools and academies, the Fletchers' Trust sponsored an essay competition with the winner to be invited to the Agincourt 600 Farewell Dinner at Cutlers' Hall on 11 April 2016 in the presence of HRH Princess Michael of Kent.



However this was a multi-layered event!! The original invitations to school and academy heads were delivered with a batch of Agincourt 600 Fletcher mugs to be used internally as an encouragement for participants. In the case of City of London Academy Islington these are to be used within "our own" Fletcher House (one of five houses named after city livery companies). The competition was aimed at pupils in year 10 (ie 15 year olds in the year before their GCSE exams) and asked them to tackle the topic of "Why has the Battle of Agincourt resonated through English and British history for the last 600 years and why does it have relevance today?" in just 1000 words.

From the outset we were grateful for the support of Fletcher, Anne Curry, Professor of Medieval History at Southampton University who agreed to mark the entries and also helped with some guidance notes on how to focus on a narrow theme within a potentially very wide remit. On the final day for entries the marking began and we were delighted with the originality of approaches and the overall quality of entries as we were well aware that this is not a period of history that gets much coverage in schools these days. Anne wrote individual feedback and these comments were incorporated into a personal letter of thanks and congratulation from the Master for each entrant.

Out of this we also had a worthy winner, Charlotte Blythe from the City of London Freeman's School. Charlotte joined us for the Agincourt 600 Dinner, received a prize arrow from the Master as a memento and also a donation to the school's nominated charity (Woodlands School for disabled children in Leatherhead). In recognition of the strong team performance from the City of London School for Girls we also gave a donation to their charity which, this year, is Streetchild.

With thanks to the schools and their pupils who entered; to Adrian Scott Knight, Andrew Trapnell and Andrew McMillan, whose financial support made this possible, and to Anne Curry for all her hard work.

Our picture shows Charlotte with the prize arrow, flanked by Anne Curry, Adrian Scott Knight and Andrew McMillan. More information about Charlotte and the Freeman's School is available on our website at <http://www.fletchers.org.uk/fleche.html>



The Installation Court & Dinner



The Installation Court and Dinner took place in our Hall on Tuesday 12th April. As usual the Court was attended by a gathering of most of the Assistants and Honorary Assistants to see Stuart Fraser installed as Master by the outgoing Master, Adrian Scott Knight.

After the Master had taken his oath of office, he duly installed the Upper Warden, Clare James, and the Renter Warden Roger Watson. It was then down to the usual business of the Court and reports were received from the various committees and the composition of the Committees for 2016/17 agreed. These are listed in the directory on the website. It turned out to be a very busy Court as we welcomed Anne Curry as a new Court Assistant and also inducted 4 new Liverymen:- Tim Johnson, the son of Past Master Larry Johnson, Josie Gowler, Martin Richards and Alan Limer.

The Court then rose and sometime was spent photographing the new team and our new Liverymen. After this we moved into the reception area and the

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OUR NEXT EDITION

The intention is to publish a paper edition of La Flèche every May which will include the new officers of the Company and supplement that with email editions as necessary during the year.

Website
www.fletchers.org.uk

Editor
John Dumbrell
Riverholme
The Towpath
Shepperton
TW17 9LL
01932-267272
john@dumbrell.org.uk

The opinions expressed are those of the contributors and are not necessarily those of the editor or the Worshipful Company of Fletchers

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Master and Wardens together with their wives and husbands welcomed our guests. The occasion was graced by a Guard of Honour made up of our affiliated cadets from 1921 (Lewisham) Squadron ATC and the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. Dinner was announced and we all took our places



in the dining room where we were entertained by a short recital on the Spanish guitar by Michael Poll which was much appreciated. Dinner was then served. After the loyal toasts, the Upper Warden, Clare James, proposed the toast of "Our Guest" in a short speech where she welcomed the guests and praised our new Master. The reply, on behalf of the guests, was made by a disabled archer, Tania Nadarajah. Tania described how a grant from the Fletchers' Trust had enabled her to improve her equipment so that she could take part in International Competitions and she proudly announced her award of a bronze medal at the recent European Championships.. At the end of her speech, she received a cheque from the master for £12,500 as the Flet-

Michael Poll on Spanish Guitar



Tania Nadarajah receives the final cheque from the Master for the Rio Dream on behalf of Archery GB



ers final installment towards the Paralympic Archery Team. At the end of the dinner, we were all invited to join the Master in the reception area for a stirrup cup before returning home.

Notes for Contributors.

Articles should be between 150 and 500 words long and emailed to john@dumbrell.org.uk or sent in typewritten format. Emailed pictures should be no larger than 10x8 cm and at least 200dpi. All pictures should have a file name relevant to their content. Actual photographs can be any size and will be returned. Letters to the Editor should be short and to the point. The Editor reserves the right to edit letters or articles as necessary.

Our next printed edition will appear in **May 2017** and the deadline for contributions is **1st April**, but it is hoped to produce email versions during the year. So please keep the articles coming in. It is your newsletter, and I rely on you all to keep the contributions coming in preferably with some photos.

John Dumbrell, Editor - john@dumbrell.org.uk



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or William II for his eldest son which is particularly memorable as the venue of the Potsdam Conference between the Allies in 1945.

Saturday evening saw us dining in splendour with the Master at the 30's styled Blue Salon at the Kaisersaal Restaurant just off Potsdamer Platz.. The normal tradition is that the Senior Past Master speaks, but as he has known the Master for over 50 years, Jeremy Garnett spoke followed by the Master. The party then returned to the hotel, where the bar did some good business.



Our final morning took us to the Daniel Libeskind designed Jewish Museum. We were led through the underground passages of the old museum to the Holocaust Garden and then to the upper floors for the permanent exhibition. I think we all found it very thought provoking. Our final gathering was again at a typical restaurant just near the Tiergarten from where we were able to walk back to the hotel through the gardens to await our coach to the airport. A memorable weekend much enhanced by our wonderful guide Tom and Archie's loss of suitcase!

Nicky Scott Knight.

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Alan Limer

Now retired, Alan spent most of his working life as a senior manager with BT. He played hockey with the Deputy Master and his other roguish friends until knees forced an end of play a few years ago. Alan is a keen sailor, with a part share in a yacht alongside fellow liveryman, Philip Shears. He is an active member of the Rolls Royce Enthusiasts Club, whose rallies he thoroughly enjoys and Alan has a couple of boys toys that reflect his motoring interest. Alan plays golf suitably badly and specialises in finding an alternative way to the green and rearranging the countryside en-route.



Alan Limer

Martin Richards



Martin Richards

Martin has spent his entire career in the London & international insurance markets, and; some 37 years on; is still enjoying it. He has worked in Dublin, Houston, San Francisco & Athens but is now firmly committed to London. Martin is a keep fit enthusiast, a committed Freemason, a long-term Chelsea fan, and his musical tastes render him an "aging rock & roller". A lifelong motorcyclist, Martin regularly commutes on 2 wheels from Surrey to Tower Bridge and is currently taking lessons on the guitar.

Martin is married to Juliet who is an Event Manager and he has 3 children from his first marriage all of whom are pursuing independent careers. Martin is also a member of the Turners' and Insurers' Companies.

Master's Weekend in Berlin 17-20th September 2015

When Adrian was asked to swap years with Stuart almost the first thing he was asked was, "Where's the Weekend?" We thought that we had most of 2015 to finalise plans, but suddenly the pressure was on and a short list of 8 venues, was promptly reduced to 4. After a couple of weeks we were down to two and a recce to Berlin was planned. As we have both



organised many trips for similar or larger numbers to Europe, we wouldn't have considered using a travel agent but the time constraint made this necessary. In the event this had one important advantage in that the agent produced an outstanding guide named Tom.

In February Kate and the two of us went to Berlin for a couple of days during which time we knew what we wanted to do, although some bookings were tricky e.g. booking a boat trip when the company was closed for the winter. We were delighted that the

idea of Berlin was well received and we finally made a group of 42.

On arrival our tour began with a visit to the amazing Reichstag building for Kaffee and Kuchen followed by a tour of the glass tower with its beautiful views over Berlin. Dinner on our first night was in a typical German restaurant with large flagons of beer, sausage and sauerkraut. Suitably sated we retired to our comfort rooms at the 4* Maritim Hotel.

First stop next morning was at Checkpoint Charlie to be awed by what is left of the Berlin Wall that divided the city for so many years. Then on to the inspiring structure of the Brandenburg Gate before embarking on a river trip on the Spree which runs through Berlin, passing both the old and the modern. An afternoon of culture followed with a guided tour of the Pergamon Museum with its spectacular exhibits, then we had a very special visit to the Kaiser Wilhelm Kirche (or what is left of it) on Kurfürstendamm in West Berlin, where a choir was rehearsing. After the hustle and bustle of the city it was a real moment of peace and calm. Thereafter everyone did their own thing! Some to shop, some to sup and some to sleep until dinner!

Saturday morning dawned brightly and we climbed into our coach for a trip to Potsdam to visit the beautiful palace of Sanssouci. It was created by Frederick the Great in 1744 as a summer residence and has some lovely rooms and magnificent grounds. After a brief lunch in the Dutch Quarter of Potsdam we then moved onto the Cecilienhof Palace built by Emper-



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The Master's Report 2015/16

All Masters probably feel that their year is different, but with the return to the Hall and the Agincourt commemorations and all the associated extra meetings it has been a very busy year. It was a privilege to be installed as Master of Worshipful Company of Fletchers on Tuesday 14th April.

As Stuart, who is now Master, and I had swapped years, much of the year's programme was already booked including my installation and the installation dinner at the magnificent Drapers Hall. This larger venue enabled me to invite a large family party many of whom had not previously dined in the City. My old school friend, Christopher Beale, kindly spoke at the dinner.

From the start of the year, our clerk was a tremendous help guiding me on the do's and don'ts. For a number of years I had only been writing letters for condolences and major parties and for everything else "thank you's" were by email.

Masters receive many invitations during the year. Some are just for the Master, some Master and Consort but most often Master and Clerk, as it was on the day after my installation when an invitation to dinner had been received from the Information Technologists. The City tradition is that the senior Master present speaks and, as we are number 39, I thought that I would be safe, but alas not. Fortunately short speeches can be quite popular! Following the dinner we had a short conversation;

Adrian "Kate, surely I can send an email of thanks to the InfoTech Master?"
Kate "No" (said very politely of course!)

It has been a very sad year for the Fletchers with the loss of several members of the livery as well as some close family members of liverymen.

At the Court and in committee meetings, we seemed for a while to be bogged down with Hall matters; when would the Hall be finished? and financial matters. At last the Hall was officially opened on 8th September by the Princess Royal, who as a past Master Farmer, had kindly accepted the invitation to reopen the refurbished Hall. Thus continuing her interest, as she had opened the original building in 1986. May I take this opportunity to publicly thank everyone who has made the newly refurbished Hall a reality....there were times when it seemed an uphill struggle.

The Agincourt events are well covered in the excellent Agincourt edition of La Flèche. One of my final acts as Master was to present the winner of our Agincourt Essay Competition with her presentation arrow. Charlotte Blythe is shown receiving this on the back page of this edition. One of the side benefits of the Agincourt commemorations is that, as well as the Bowyers, we have become closer to the other Warrior companies, the Cutlers, the Armourers and the Gun Makers. It is hoped that we have an annual Warrior dinner.

Nicky has supported me throughout the year and, in March, organised a Ladies' Lunch at the Bluebird in the Kings Road, which I believe was very successful and maybe repeated. It is a fact of life that we will lose members of the company, but I am pleased to say that we now have a number of new liverymen and I ask you all to consider those you might know in your family and contacts, who might be a suitable candidate for joining the livery.

Nicky and I wish Stuart and Laura a very successful Master's year.

AJSK

The United Guilds' Service St. Paul's Cathedral

This annual service of Thanksgiving took place on the 11th March 2016 and, as usual, was well attended by the Livery Companies. Each year selected Liveries headed by the Great Twelve, join the formal procession at the start of the Service. Those not involved in the procession have tickets for the Service and are expected to be seated in St Paul's by 10.45 at the latest.



As we all arrived for the service, the steps of St Paul's were full of a colourful throng of Liverymen waiting to get into the Church together with Masters, Wardens and their Clerks in their robes making the final adjustments. All this was watched by a crowd of interested tourists.

Once inside the Cathedral, we all made our way to the allotted seats and, at ten minutes past eleven, the procession starts with the Livery Companies leading followed by the City dignitaries, the clergy and the Bishop of London and finally by the Lord Mayor.

The service was conducted by the Dean, The Very Reverend Dr David Ison, and the sermon was given by the Right Reverend and Right Honorable Richard Chartres, KCVO, Bishop of London. In his sermon, the Bishop commented on the work done by the Livery Companies during the past year and exhorted them to continue the good work bearing in mind the principles of Christianity.

The service ended with the Blessing and we walked to our Hall in Cloth Street where it was the Farmers' turn to welcome us to Lunch. Again following the usual custom, now we were back in the Farmers' and Fletchers' Hall, we were joined by several other Livery Companies for the Lunch.

JLD

Donations to The Fletchers Trust and Gift Aid

As you know, HSBC withdrew their Direct Debit processing in December 2014, so we are no longer able to collect your donations via DD. And, as you also know, all Liverymen and Freemen are expected to make a donation to the Fletchers Trust. Some members have responded to my request in February and have either sent me a cheque for this year or set up a standing order, regrettably many members have yet to respond. Standing orders may be payable monthly, quarterly, bi-annually or paid once a year. The account details are:

The Fletchers Trust, Account number 11115146, Sort code 40-05-21.

For those yet to set up a standing order or make a donation for this year, please can you also return a Gift Aid declaration together with the details of the standing order that you have set up (amount and frequency and name of your bank and account); so that I can check that the amount received is the same as that you have requested. If you have any queries, please get in touch. Many thanks.

Kate Pink, Clerk to the Company

We Welcome Our New Liverymen

Carol Kisby

Carol became a Liveryman of the Company in October 2015.

Carol worked in Education for nearly 40 years. Having trained as a teacher of Physical Education, she began her career in Suffolk later moving to Essex. After the birth of her son (Matthew) in 1980 she further developed her interest in Special Educational Needs, studying for a Masters degree in Education at Cambridge University and working as a Special needs Co-ordinator in a large secondary school.

The later years of her career were spent working for Essex local authority, initially managing a Special Needs project for 3 years and then working as a manager of a team of specialist teachers supporting schools in meeting the needs of pupils with learning difficulties and disabilities. Now retired, Carol splits her time between Italy and the U.K. She has also undertaken the post of Assistant Editor and produced the excellent Agincourt Edition of La Flèche.



Carol Kisby

The Installation Court, last month, saw four new members join the Company:



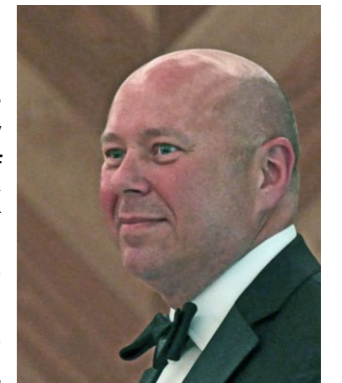
Josie Gowler

Josie Gowler

Josie, a Chartered Accountant, is Chief Finance Officer and Deputy Chief Executive at the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire. She is a member of the Cambridge Writers of Imaginative Literature, and has had short fiction published in small press magazines as well as articles published in accountancy trade magazines. Josie and her husband Vince are keen hikers and also enjoy Napoleonic Re-enactment, playing redcoat soldiers at events throughout Britain, Europe and Canada. They have been friends with the Upper Warden for many years.

Tim Johnson

Tim is head of the UK Employee Benefits business of Arthur J. Gallagher, a global risk management group. He is an Accountant by qualification but an adviser and CEO in practice and an Associate of the Personal Finance Society. Tim specialises in advising large UK and multinational employers on staff benefits and pensions. Tim is a previous winner of the IFA of the Year award and has helped the Chartered Insurance Institute as an examiner. Tim has two children, both sixth formers, and, when he has time, enjoys fly fishing and the occasional round of golf but his real passion is classic cars. Tim is one of PM Larry Johnson's sons.



Tim Johnson

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ODE ON A FLETCHERS' COMPANY LADIES BANQUET

There's a Hall in Cloth Street, just where the road narrows,
That's home to the Fletchers, the makers of arrows.
They share it with Farmers, but this was *their* night;
I felt very honoured to receive an invite.

The Hall's been refurbished, it all looked so new;
A steep spiral staircase leads down to the loo.
I joined the reception, some cadets lined the way,
Perhaps they'll aspire to be soldiers one day.

I knew quite a number of those who were there,
Some from the Fletchers and some from elsewhere.
The Warrior Companies were each represented
By their Masters and Ladies all smartly presented.

The Reverend John Hayton delivered the Grace,
He's still Master Bowyer - a familiar face.
His voice sounded husky, he had quite a croak;
I hope he recovers, he's a very nice bloke.

We all took our places and napkins unfurled;
The lady beside me had her hair nicely curled.
I sat next to their Clerk, the honour was mine;
We both raised our glasses and sipped at our wine.

The silver was borrowed, but that's no disgrace;
Along the top table it took pride of place.
It belonged to a Liveryman who left it in trust;
He wouldn't have wished it to just gather dust.

We had Parfait of Fromage de Chèvre Normandie,
Served in thick slices on pressed Ratatouille.
Then came Filet de Boeuf, with gravy of course,
And Pears Poached in Syrup with a Calvados Sauce.

Professor Anne Curry then took to the floor;
She knows more than anyone about Agincourt.
She told us the site of the battle was in doubt,
But we do know that Henry the Frenchmen did rout.

My own Master's Lady was listening intently,
When a section of screening fell on her accidentally.
She's not one to panic and remained quite composed;
I was glad she could stand when the toasts were proposed.

I could not sign off without saying, 'Thank you',
To their generous Master for inviting me too.
True and Sure are your arrows, when they're in full flight;
You treated us all to an excellent night.

John Allen
Clerk to the Gunmakers' Company

Moving On



When I retired from being a full time archer I had no idea what I wanted to do next. Many elite athletes struggle to transition out of sport and I was no exception. Eventually I decided I wanted to put something back. Nobody achieves success on their own and I am incredibly grateful to everybody who helped me. Without sponsors (like the Fletchers) who provided me with the equipment I needed, family, friends and coaches I would not have been as successful as I was. It followed that the next chapter of my life would see me help others.

I set up a business with this motive. I use my experience of competing at international level and research into performance psychology to teach others how to prepare and perform like elite athletes. With over 82% of all mental health issues caused by stress in the workplace it has been rewarding to put strategies in place to help prevent this number rising.

One of my proudest achievements is being involved with Kaleidoscope Investments, where I am head of Training and Development. Ki helps disabled people set up or grow their business, providing the whole infrastructure around them to help them succeed. Traditionally people with disabilities have faced barriers or seriously lack the confidence to become self employed, so it is incredible to be able to give this opportunity. We are currently working with a number of businesses, who not only have solid business plans, but provide creative answers to problems that disability causes.

Dani Brown

Editor's Note. PMs Chris Brown and Andrew McMillan recently attended one of Dani's Ki events which was a very effective and dynamic "Dragons" style event encouraging entrepreneurship for people with disabilities. This seemed a great success and it was a pleasure to catch up with Dani's news.

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for the tasking ahead. From all in DEFENDER, we wish all Fletcher's and their families a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Following the tragedy of the Paris Attacks DEFENDER linked up with the French Air Force off Djibouti, a period of complex air defence training followed with DEFENDER controlling Mirage 2000s in a variety of scenarios:

Charles De Gaulle (CdG) will remain in theatre for some time and DEFENDER has provided protection in air, surface and sub-surface environments to the CdG and her consorts as they conduct strike operations into Iraq and Syria.

Picture—Red Sea RV; DEFENDER is seen here providing close escort to the Charles de Gaulle as she makes her way to the Gulf, taking the fight to Daesh.



HMS DEFENDER

Overall a busy but hugely rewarding period of operations has seen DEFENDER provide Air Defence Command and Control for three separate task groups, including the coveted air defence accolade of the 'Triple Crown' (Green, Blue and Red Crown duties respectively – the first time for T45 on one deployment!) And a combat plane spotters dream which has included the control of some of the worlds most advanced aircraft types including Rafale, Super Etendard, Mirage 2000, F18 and USAF F15s to name but a few.

Our next period of tasking will see DEFENDER undertake further combat operations with both Carrier Strike Groups and the support of wider UK Defence Engagement objectives in the region.



The support of the Fletcher's throughout this period has been invaluable, in particular the fantastic morale packages that Kate sent for the Ship's Company which have helped to ensure that Christmas away from our families has been made all the more bearable. The tea bags, confectionary and assortment of magazines gave everyone a taste of home and will ensure that all remain fully focussed

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To continue to build on the success of the indoor tournament, our Club is planning to run an equivalent outdoor competition in 2016 at our new ground as soon as we have developed suitable facilities. As this event will be using our facilities and equipment the overheads will be far more manageable.

The experience, skills and motivation of our coaches, volunteers, supporters and our sport, are benefiting considerably from this event which provides an ideal focus for networking and creative thinking which is essential if we are

going to move our sport forward. In terms of participation in the event, it was clear that there were as many carers/coaches/field crew/officials supporting the event as there were archers !

Our thanks go to the Worshipful Company of Fletchers , Wales Archery, Active Gloucestershire and TenZone Targets and Leisure@ for supporting this event.

Alison Pine

Inclusion Officer, Deer Park Archers sent in by Michael Holden.

The Deer Park Archers

Deer Park Archers Para Archery FITA 2016

The third para archery FITA18 took place on Sunday 21st February 2016.

This truly unique event was held at Leisure@ in Cheltenham. The size of the venue meant that we were able to use fifteen targets, with three specifically placed at a shorter distance to allow inclusion archers and archers with more severe disabilities to access the event. 8 scores were recorded by para archers and 9 by visually impaired archers – an increase in numbers on last year. Five archers from the Enham Trust, a leading disability centre, attended to have a fun shoot and four of our own Inclusion archers shot at a short distance. As in previous years, the rest of the places were filled with local able bodied archers. Overall 77 archers took part.



The para archers travelled to the venue from all over the country, with one couple coming all the way from Newcastle ! The profit that was made by the event will be ploughed back into our inclusion club and has already been earmarked for coaching and adapted equipment. The event was well received by those taking part and all archers were also asked to complete a small survey in order to inform how we can make the event even better next year.



Among the comments received were :
'Many thanks for a great day and for all the attention shown to us
'Blinkies'
'Thank you for a brilliant day'

The survey also shows that over 70% of the participants felt that there were not enough truly inclusive tournaments, which supports the decision to continue to run such an event.

A key output from this event and hopefully a defining moment in growing the number of tournaments of this

type will be a promotional video encouraging other clubs to have the confidence run more inclusive competitions and our thanks must go to Cheltenham Film Studios for their support. We will of course send you a copy when complete.

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