

NEWSLETTER



The Worshipful
Company of
Arbitrators

May 2011

www.arbitratorscompany.org



Kay Linnell - Master

Recent Events Pancake Race

It was a bright, sunny and fresh Shrove Tuesday, just like the Company's team of fleet-footed pancake tossers. There had been no time to practice, or to study the complex rules about attire. Spirits were high and the team had their hats carefully stapled to their ears to make sure they did not fly off at the sharp turn around the cone at the far end of the track.



The Master ran first followed by the Liveryman, the Lady and then our fancy dress entry. The first two heats produced steadily improving results and in the third heat Victoria Russell was awarded a penalty for not wearing a gown. Our final heat was satisfactory, but were all disconsolate about Victoria's penalty. And our upset was increased when we found that in fact even with the penalty Victoria had made the final, but that race was run without her taking part!

The buffet lunch and glass of wine that followed was more than ample recompense. And plans were made for a much more successful campaign in 2012. If you would like to rise to the challenge then please let the Clerk know of your interest.

Congratulations to Paul Choon Kiat Wee who won the City Law School's prize as the top student in Commercial Law and Civil Litigation from the Charitable Trust.



MASTER'S MESSAGE

Congratulations to the members of our Company that have taken active roles in representing us in the City of London at the Financial Services Group, in the Livery Schools initiative and in volunteering for City of London events to support the Lord Mayor and his Sheriffs in their relentless endeavours to promote the City and the Bear Necessities Charity.

It is the Master's duty to represent the Company at such events as The Great Curry lunch, the British Red Cross "Jailed and Bailed" imprisonment and ransom of Livery Masters and other Livery Company and City events too numerous to name. No one person could be "ever-present" at all these functions and that is why the current Master and Wardens rely on the support of Court Assistants and Liverymen.

In the not too distant future I hope the relentless pace will ease up long enough for me to publish a list of events where I have managed to represent the Company to encourage those interested in getting more involved in the City and Livery movement to consider becoming more active within the Company. In the meantime thank you for all your support for the Company and in our Charitable Trust. I am hoping that shortly there will be even more information on our website about our Company's Charitable Trust and a review of our Charitable achievements.

There are great opportunities for this Company to support the City. One of these is the marketing of the new facilities of the new Commercial Court at the Rolls Building to be opened under the leadership of Dame Elizabeth Gloster QC this autumn. There are dispute resolution rooms and the centralisation of many Courts into this new centre. The funding of marketing material for the new Commercial Court is another opportunity for this active modern livery company to support next year's Lord Mayor. More details of this will emerge in due course.

In the meantime please continue to support the Company's events. Not yet advertised will be a visit to HMS Mersey on a Sunday in July and our Summer Outing on 13th. July 2011 which promises to be a little bit different and great fun.

WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF ARBITRATORS RECEIVES ROYAL CHARTER

Her Majesty The Queen, on the advice of the Privy Council, approved the grant of a Royal Charter to our Company on 16th March 2011. This was a splendid birthday present notified to the Senior Warden almost exactly 30 years since the grant of Livery to the Company on 17th March 1981.

We will now await the scrivening of the Royal Charter on to vellum and application of the Great Seal. The Master and Wardens will be making arrangements for a Charter Celebration and more details will be announced in due course.

The Senior Warden has worked tirelessly on our behalf to secure the Royal Charter and I am sure you will join me in thanking him for all his work in this regard.

Don't miss:

CHARITABLE TRUST CONCERT –
ST MARY LE BOW

Tuesday 14th June

ELECTION OF SHERIFFS –
GUILDHALL

Friday 24th June

COURT MEETING, ANNUAL
SERVICE AND SUMMER OUTING

Wednesday 13th July

MASTER'S WEEKEND

Friday 16th – Monday 19th

September

A fantastic opportunity to stay at the Falmouth Hotel overlooking Falmouth Bay near Pendennis Castle.

The weekend will begin at 17.30 on Friday when we leave for Minack Theatre to see "Our Town" by Thornton Wilson preceded by a welcome drink and Cornish Pasty.

On Saturday morning we leave for Helston Guildhall for a talk on Stannary law accompanied by a Cornish Blue Badge Guide.

After a Cornish pub lunch we visit a gallery and have some leisure time in St Ives. In the evening we sail up Carrick Roads to dinner at Mylor Harbour. On Sunday we travel to the Lost Gardens of Heligan for a picnic lunch and tour. The final part of the official weekend will be a traditional Cornish Cream tea.

The overall cost is £300 per head to include "Select" twin sharing rooms with sea views or single rooms without sea views. An upgrade is available to "Premier" rooms with a sea view at £5 per person per night. To secure a room please send a deposit of £50 per head to the Master. The balance of £250 per person will be due 30 days before the weekend by 15th August 2011. All cheques should be made payable to "The Worshipful Company of Arbitrators" and sent to The Master at Brick Kiln Cottage, The Avenue, Herriard, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG25 2PR with the completed form that can be found on the website. Any queries should be sent by email to kay@klca.co.uk

FINANCIAL LITERACY INITIATIVE

The Lord Mayor's Financial Literacy Initiative goes from strength to strength.

Alderman Ian Luder, the Lord Mayor 2009/10 had as his theme for his year a Financial Literacy Initiative (FLI) which seeks to open the eyes and minds of schoolchildren in schools near the City (Whitechapel, Hackney, Tower Hamlets et al) to some of the issues they will have to deal with as adults. The FLI is part of a wider programme of such projects in schools, and is intended to be supported by the entire Livery movement.

The Initiative continues this year and members of the Livery including Simon Underwood of the Worshipful Company of Arbitrators visited the Clara Grant School in Tower Hamlets which is a larger than average Primary School at which many of the pupils come from backgrounds that can be considered economically disadvantageous. The proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals is well above the national expectation. A very high proportion of pupils speak English as an additional language the vast majority of pupils being of Bangladeshi heritage, although other ethnic groups are represented in small numbers.

Everyone who has attended this year and last has said what a fulfilling occasion it is and further volunteers are always needed. Contact the Senior Warden, Past Master John Rushton or Simon Underwood (addresses in the Members' area of the Company website) if you feel you can help.

SPRING LIVERY LUNCH

This year's Spring Livery Lunch took place on Friday, 8th April at the Armourers' Hall.

Armourers' Hall, situated on the corner of Coleman Street and London Wall, is on the original site of the 'Dragon and five Shoppes'. The Company has occupied this same site since 1346, taking a lease on the property in 1428 and acquiring the freehold in the 16th century. The Hall was one of the very few to escape destruction in the Great Fire of 1666, which was checked a few yards short of it. Members of the Company who had their workshops in the surrounding districts were rendered homeless, but permitted to carry on their trade in the Hall for three months provided that no hammer or forge was used.

The speaker was Venetia Howes, Immediate Past Master of the Marketors' Company and her speech was entitled "Have you earned your Freedom of the City?" The talk explored the relationship between the City civic, the livery companies and City businesses and how they work to promote the UK's competitive advantage.

Other guests included Alderman David Wootton (Solicitor), Lady Milne Coates (Loriner) and Ruth Campbell (Scrivener). This was the third important formal function in the year and the last before the next Installation Dinner on 25th October 2011.

THE NEW BEADLE

On the 8th April 2011, Alec James (known as Jimmy) a Yeoman Warder of Her Majesty's Royal Palace and Fortress the Tower of London and member of the Sovereign's Body Guard of the Yeoman Guard Extraordinary resident in the Tower of London was appointed as our new Beadle.

NEW FREEMEN AND LIVERYMEN

At the Court meeting held on Friday 8th April, Michael Bowsher QC, Michael Kavanagh, Marianne Clifford Ramey, David Smith and Gary Peters were admitted as Freeman. Martyn Bradish, Robin Orme and Kevin Shilcock were admitted to the Livery.

The Worshipful Company of Arbitrators

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