



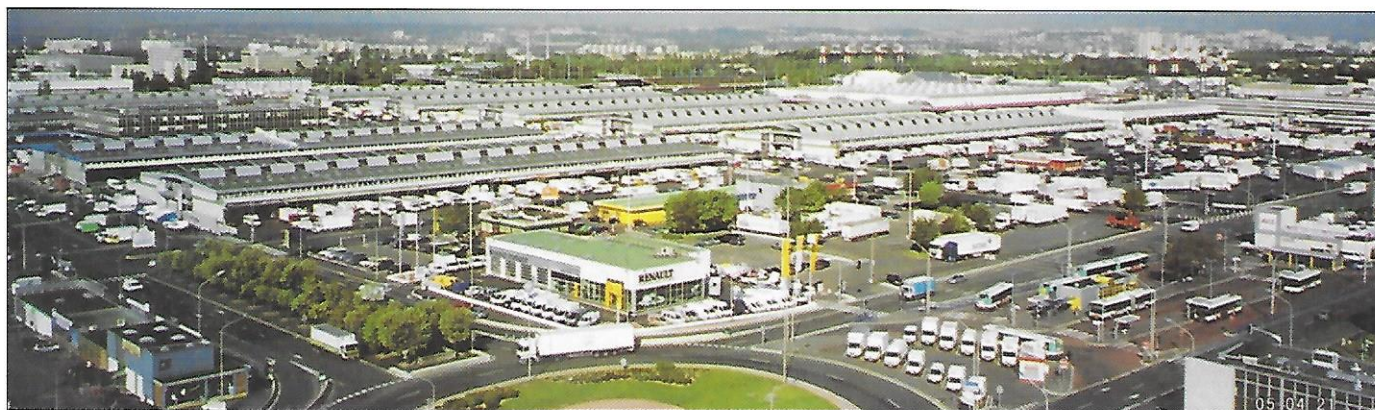
# The Fruiterers' Company NEWSLETTER

Number 53

August 2005



## BIENVENUE À RUNGIS!



*Rungis Distribution Centre from the Administration Block*

Rungis Wholesale Market and Food Distribution centre, just off the Peripherique in the southwest quarter of Paris, has the reputation of being one of the most important in Europe. The statistics are quite staggering and the General Secretary, Michel Ganneau, was on hand to explain the influence, size and significance of the French capital's composite market of food excellence when the Fruiterers, led by the Master, visited the City on the 21st and 22nd April.

A reception and dinner was held in the Restaurant of the Hotel Montparnasse on the first evening, to which several distinguished guests from Rungis had been invited. They included Marc and Adelaide Spielrein, Michel and Beatrix Ganneau and Philippe Gautier. Following a delicious meal served in a very convivial atmosphere, the Master welcomed his guests and spoke warmly about the activities and size of the operation. M. Spielrein responded on behalf of the guests and presented the Master with a seal of the market which was graciously and enthusiastically received on behalf of the Company by The Master.

Despite some late night excursions and extravagances by some of the younger Fruiterers, the party was ready at 6.30 the following morning for a short coach trip to the Market to be greeted by M. Ganneau and Philippe Gautier. (Paris Correspondent of *The Fresh Produce Journal*).

After a brief but comprehensive explanation of the layout and trading activities of Rungis, during which a two dimensional model was used to good effect, a

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

September 21st	Visit to RHS Gardens at Wisley	
September 29th	Election of The Lord Mayor	Guildhall
October 6th	Joint Livery Golf Match	The Addington GC
October 19th	National Fruit Show	Detling
October 28th	Presentation of Fruit	Mansion House
November 10th	Master and Wardens Dinner	Girdlers' Hall
February 17th 2006	Annual Banquet	Mansion House

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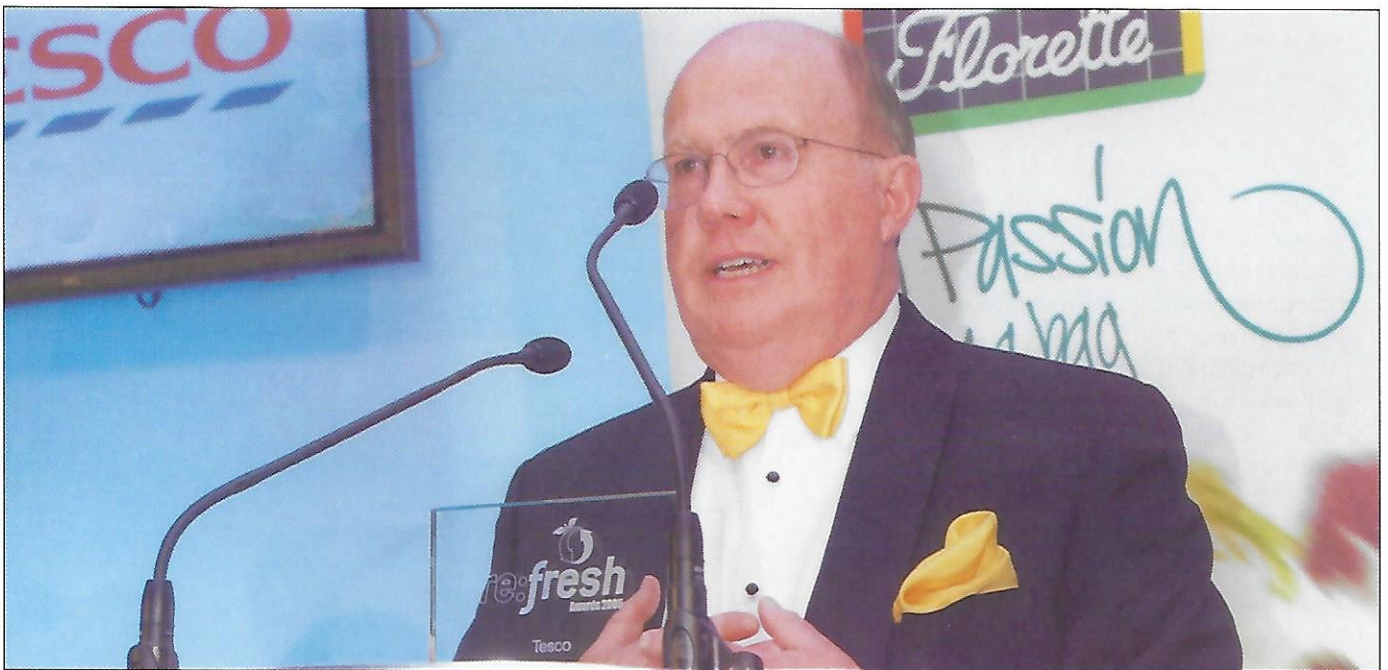


## LIVERYMEN WIN INDUSTRY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT!

The Fresh Produce Consortium in conjunction with Lockwood Press and Highbury Nexus formed an affiliation to present a one day conference and awards ceremony for the fresh produce and flower industry. This had not been held prior to 2004 and was considered as long overdue by the sages in the business. 2005 saw the second staging of the event at the Marriott Hotel, Grosvenor Square in the heart of the west end of London. Proving popular with a number of the industry's decision makers, the awards ceremony held in the banqueting suite was full to capacity.

Twelve award categories covered every element in the distribution network and attracted considerable competition. The fresh produce industry is obviously

well peppered with Fruiterers and two in particular achieved the ultimate accolades at the awards ceremony. Liveryman **David Matthews**, as joint md of Bristol Fruit Sales, a well known and respected import, wholesale and distributive company, collected two of the prestigious awards on behalf of his team. First for **Wholesaler of the Year**, (sponsored by Capespan), and secondly for **Produce Trader of the Year**, sponsored by Tesco. Liveryman **Douglas Kemp**, regarded by many in his peer group as the doyen of the UK's berry trade, took the Florette, **Lifetime Achievement Award**. This was acknowledged by the majority of attendees as a very appropriate choice. (See next Newsletter for story of Douglas' career).



*David Matthews*



*Douglas Kemp*



# DESIGNER DABINETT

Shepton Mallet in Somerset is arguably the epicentre of southwest Britain's cider industry. Each year in early June, the town becomes a focal point for the agricultural way of life and its activities and all things rural relating to what is our true heritage at the Royal Bath & West show. Four years ago, the Fruiterers decided to support the endeavours of the cider manufacturers and brewers and elected to present a silver loving cup, as an award, to the supreme cider maker. A knowledgeable and distinguished panel of judges, this year led by TV celebrity, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, tasted the brews in the Cidermakers' tent. Competition, as always, was intense and attracted entries from the UK and overseas. The different ciders could be sampled at the Cider Bar which proved a popular pursuit. The Supreme Champion for 2005 was John Perry, who won class 8, which was for ciders based on a single variety. The winner developed his excellent brew on the variety Dabinett, described as a "late bittersweet cider apple".

The Company sponsors the Cider & Orchard marquee and had their own exhibits which in conjunction with the cider industry's notables gave demonstrations on grafting. Visitors could learn about pests and diseases from attendant East Malling personnel. It was possible to hear about community orchards and the history of cider from the Somerset Apple Villages Project and Symondsburry Cider Apple Project.

This has proved a popular outing for liverymen and this year was no exception. Led by the Master, and with Liveryman Rupert Best as Chief Steward for the section, the Company felt very much at home in this heart of rural England.



*Competitors' brews on display*



*L to R: Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall and Rupert Best*



*The Master with the Doctors' Collier*



*The Master presents our cup to John Perry assisted by Hugh Whittingstall*



*Samples of the entrants' endeavours*



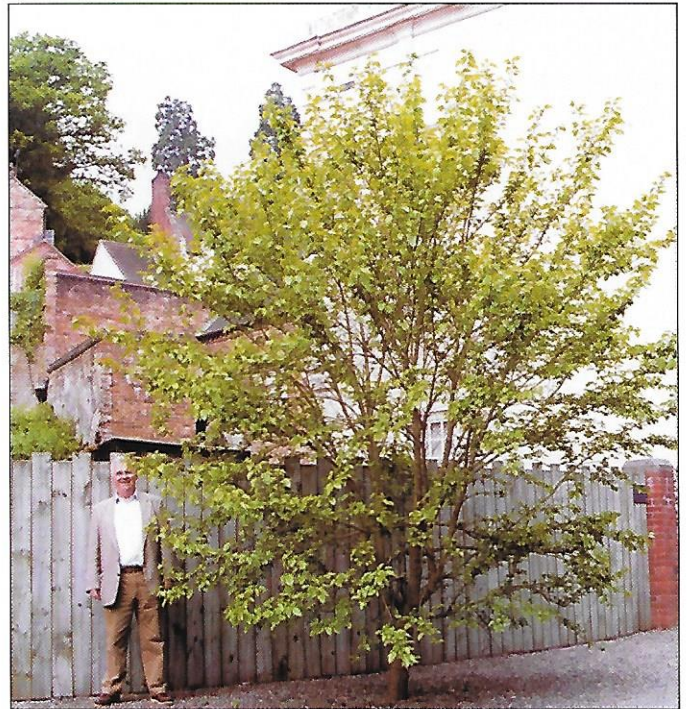
# THE MASTER'S VISIT TO IRONBRIDGE GORGE MUSEUM

Each year the Masters of all the Livery Companies are invited to participate in a social weekend in Shropshire to visit this famous Museum. There is a large social programme, including a reception and a dance.

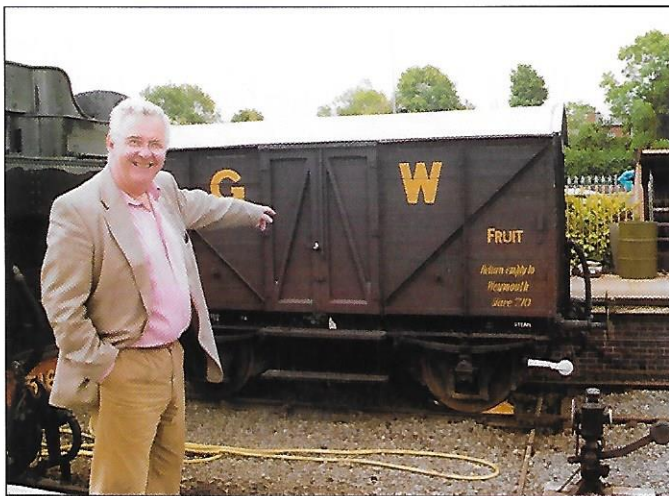
The Company visited the Museum some years ago and the then Master, Derek Tullett, planted a tree on behalf of the Company. Our photograph shows it growing well.

The event provides an ideal opportunity for friendships to be forged and experiences shared. The Master met, among others, the Masters of the Cooks, Environmental Cleaners and Pewterers Companies, all of whom came to the Summer Court Dinner in July. "I had a slight problem over being misunderstood when I thought I was being introduced to the Master of the Taxi Drivers' Company, when it should have been the Tax Advisors!", the Master told us.

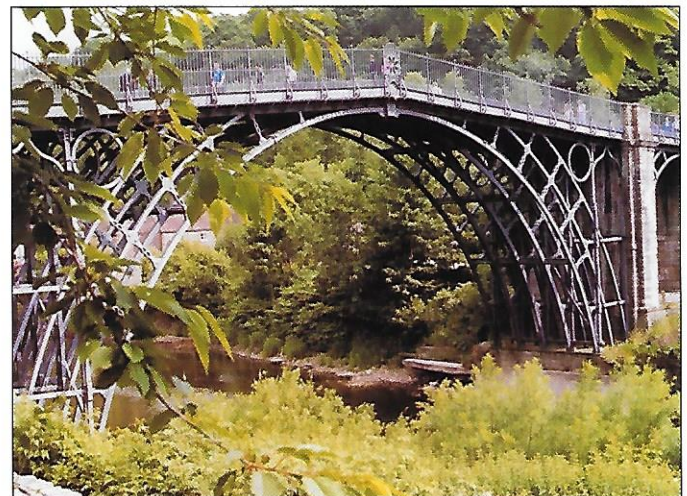
Our Master shows interest in railways in our photograph! He and Jenny in fact travelled on a small gauge railway in comfort rather than in the wagon shown!



*May it flourish for ever!*



*Four Wheels on the wagon*



*The Iron Bridge*

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# SOME CRACKING GOLF ON 05.05.05

What a date to remember for Fruiterers' golfers, the date of our 2005 meeting at Kingswood.

There was a chilly wind and the sun did not come through until we were back in the clubhouse, but that did not deter 41 players from enjoying the excellent course and some good golf.

The President led the competition but was overtaken by Gerry McDevitt who won the Barton Cup by one shot. As Churchill said "One is all you need"!

The Robert Sice prize (only open to Liverymen) was won by Colin Tenwick and Paul Leggett was the guest winner of The President's Vase, generously donated by The Master.

Norma McDowell won the ladies match; The Captain of Kingswood Golf Club was presented with a basket of fruit, as has become a tradition of the Day!

Other winners were Mark Culley, Clare

Bousfield and Terry Ogborn.

We had three pairings of "parent and child", which is a record; Clare and her father, David, achieved the best family score.

Nick Meyer won "Nearest the Pin" and David Bartlett (The Master's son) won "The Longest Drive".

The Master presented the prizes and we were sorry that Jenny was unable to come at the last moment.

Ivor Robins (currently Renter Warden) conducted a £10 Draw. We raised £500 for the Fruit Distribution Programme and we are most grateful to Ivor and Sue for contributing prizes for the Draw.

Many thanks again to The President for inviting us and donating the green fees and many congratulations to our team, led by The President, who came 7th in The Prince Arthur Golf Competition at Walton Heath on May 19th.



*A basket of fruit for the Club Captain*



*Gerry McDevitt wins The Barton Cup*



*Clare and David Bousfield win "The Family Prize"*



*Peter Morrish, Tony Thompson, Martin Webster and Lance Morrish*



*Ted Dilley, Nigel Bayman, The President and Nick Meyer*

## CHANGES TO AWARDS PROGRAMME

The Company will not be presenting Environmental Awards this year. It has been difficult to get sufficiently meritorious entries and it has been decided to put the programme "on hold".

The Court has approved the introduction of a new "Fruit Growers Management Award". Details are being drawn up and it is expected that the first Award will be made in 2006.

The Craftsman Award is also being put "on hold" as candidates are proving difficult to find and the co-sponsor has withdrawn support.

The Matthew Mack Award for services to training within the fruit industry is due to be presented next at the Annual Banquet in February 2006 and The Clerk will shortly be seeking nominations from Liverymen as well as from the industry itself.



# CHAMPIONS GALORE!



We were delighted when this year's winners of The Garden of the Year Award welcomed our offer of a gift of trees, with a tree planting and a visit by the Livery.

This year's winner was Borde Hill in Sussex. This event is always popular as many of us are gardeners, perhaps not in quite a large way!

Over eighty formed the enthusiastic group that travelled to Sussex to admire this creation of Colonel Stephenson Clarke, who was a sponsor of the great plant hunters of the early 1900s, collecting examples of rare trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants from around the world. The specimens were carefully planted in situations that closely replicated their native conditions. The result was and remains a plantsman's paradise. The vision of the current occupier of Borde Hill, Andrewjohn Stephenson Clarke, and his wife Eleni is to maintain and expand the collection and to provide an educational and enjoyable experience for people of all ages throughout the four seasons. It is they, the fourth generation of the family to live at Borde Hill, who have opened this treasure to the public.

On the 23rd June the party was extremely fortunate to be accompanied by Mrs Clarke and head gardener Harvey Stephens, who illustrated the two hour walk with comments and anecdotes that brought this 200 acre site to life. The information and enthusiasm were boundless

*Left: The Quarry with Himalayan subjects.*

*Below: A view from the North Park*





and heightened the interest in this most glorious and beautifully conceived garden. Borde Hill boasts more champion trees than any other privately-owned collection in the country. Trees listed as 'champions' have been identified as those that are the tallest or have the largest girth for the species in Britain.

The house itself was started by a courtier to Henry VIII around 1598 and was acquired by the Stephenson Clarke family in 1893. The garden became a charity in 1965 and is now run by a board of independent directors. Borde Hill lies in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty situated on the High-Weald of Mid-Sussex in which many of the best known gardens of South East England are to be found. It

is divided into three main sectors, the formal garden, the South Park with lakeside walks and woodland walks to the north. Apart from the variety of botanical specimens and stunning views the garden is renowned for its collection of rhododendrons and carefully restored rose garden.

The Master, assisted by Eleni Clarke and Harvey Stephens planted a Black Mulberry in an area that is to be developed into an orchard. At the conclusion of the tour lunch was taken in Jeremy's, a first class restaurant that has been developed at Borde Hill, where the Master thanked the Stephenson Clarke's for their hospitality and congratulated them on their successes.



*In the Rose Garden*



*The Tulip Tree in the Garden of Allah*



*Borde Hill House*



*Tree planting*



# FOLLOWING IN THE STEPS OF HORATIO

Sheerness was a small naval port until the fifties. When the RN withdrew, Medway Ports Authority had to find other activities to keep this strategically sited, deep water terminal on the map. The map is the Isle of Sheppey, cut off from the mainland by the Swale, and access to which was over one up-and-down bridge that carries the railway and road. Miles and miles of marsh and tidal rivulets provide a natural habitat for a flourishing wildlife population. However, this was not going to keep employment on the island at an acceptable level.

Back in the sixties, the then operators decided to actively seek new business for this Kent backwater. They succeeded, and over the following four decades the Port of Sheerness has developed into one of the most important discharge terminals for imported fresh fruit in Europe. The latest statistics suggest that the tonnage is approaching the magical 1million tonnes, which puts it very close in significance to such legendary terminals as Rotterdam and Antwerp. Geographically, it is one of the closest ports to mainland Europe and is favoured by shipping companies and importers alike.

One such importer is Capespan, who in the mid-nineties along with the then owners the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company developed a new, state-of-the-art, discharge terminal to bring in South African and other origin produce to supply its ever expanding portfolio of cilents. The result was quite outstanding and in many ways pushed out the frontiers for the industry.

The Master, accompanied by Jenny and five other Fruiterers, were invited by Martin Dunnett, (himself a Liveryman), and Trading Director of Capespan, to visit the facility and witness the operation in full flow.

Following a welcome and introductory presentation, Martin escorted the visitors to the MV Summer Wind, a Lauritzen-Cool vessel that was discharging South African citrus cargoes at the berth alongside the terminal. The complex includes a 20,000 pallet receipt, handling and distribution centre with a packing facility for those customers that prefer to receive their fruit in a format other than loose. Throughout, the terminal there is temperature and humidity maintenance that ensures the fruit is kept in optimum conditions during its time in the building. An average of 1,500 pallets, are delivered from the terminal to customers every day. Distribution is to the entirety of the UK and Ireland in vehicles that keep the produce in pristine condition.

The Master was interested to learn that Horatio Nelson, one of Britain's most well known military heroes, had once been the officer in charge of the port when it was occupied by the Navy. His official residence, which is listed but unoccupied, still stands, just inside the entrance to the port and there are still several reminders of the naval past, canons and carved bowsprits from wooden men-of-war.



*"Welcome on board, Master"*



*Snapper snapped!*



*The party on the quay*



*Boardroom presentation*



*Pallets being luffed*



## OUR NUFFELD SCHOLAR AT THE AUDIT COURT DINNER

The Master was pleased to welcome our first Nuffield Scholar, Stuart Clark, when he came to meet the Company and join us for dinner on May 19th.

"We are pleased and delighted that our first foray into the sponsorship of Nuffield Scholars has produced such a fine response from high calibre applicants" The Master said.

Stuart is a 42 year old pioneering top fruit grower from Kent who has introduced several new varieties to UK cultivation. The Master expressed delight that this scholarship would provide support for such an enterprising individual as Stuart to travel overseas, explore new emerging technologies and new methods of working, and to be able to pass on his new-found knowledge to invigorate the UK fruit industry. He wished Stuart every success for his visits to New Zealand, South Africa, South America and eastern Europe during his Scholarship.



*Martin Thatcher*



*Stuart Clark*

It is valuable and noteworthy that for the UK fruit industry two further individuals from the sector have also been appointed 2005 Nuffield Farming Scholars with other sponsorship; Martin Thatcher (Managing Director of Thatcher's Cider and a Director of South West Food and Drink which promotes drinks from the South West of England) has been appointed to receive the farmers Fund Food Chain Award to enable him to travel to Europe, New Zealand and North America to study adding value and consumer benefits to non-citrus fruit drinks and David Northcroft (a Technical Specialist employed by KG Fruit) who has been appointed to receive the Young Nuffield (Bob Matson) Award to support his travels to Europe, Israel, Japan and the USA to study soft fruit production with particular emphasis on reducing pesticide residues in strawberries. Martin Thatcher was also able to accept our invitation to Dinner on May 19th.

## DIAMONDS ARE STILL A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND!

This comes on the very best authority from a number of lady members of the Livery or the Partners' Wives of Liverymen.

In reviving a custom that The Master's Lady meets the Ladies once during the year and has a chance to get to know them better, Jenny Bartlett hosted a lunch in May at The Ritz Hotel in London.

Some 37 ladies attended for a delicious meal specially prepared by the head chef, John Williams. After lunch, a talk was given by jewellery specialist, Patricia

Law FGA, who chose as her subject "Jewellery Fashions of the Twentieth Century".

The lunch and the talk were held in the Marie Antoinette Suite. The talk was accompanied by slides and followed by a Question and Answer session.

We have no pictures of the event nor any samples to be given away!

As Jenny remarked "There is nothing like putting on the Ritz!"



# "ENGLAND EXPECTS" AND CHOPSTICKS

Celia, the daughter of the Master and Jenny, is employed by Bonham's, the well known auction house situated at New Bond Street, in London's West End. The viewing rooms provided a wonderful venue for a Fruiterers' evening soiree on the 30th June.

We gathered for a most interesting and informative two hours perusing items that had been assembled for impending sales. Particularly pertinent was the collection of naval paintings, artefacts and memorabilia, many of which were associated with the life and activities of Lord Nelson. It included a framed presentation of the Admiral's famous flag message that was 'runup' to signal the commencement of that most famous of sea battles and began 'England expects'. The Master's passion for things nautical and the timing, which is in the year when we celebrate the 200th anniversary of Trafalgar, made the opportunity very appropriate. In addition we were graced with the presence of

two very distinguished guests, the Second Sea Lord, Vice-Admiral Sir James Burnell-Nugent and Lady Nugent, who played host to the Fruiterers on the Victory, earlier in the year.

The attentive staff members of Bonhams were on hand to answer questions and give appraisals of the various objects and paintings. The South East Regional Director, William Richards, (who had been a guest of the Master at Borde Hill), led the team and ensured that those in attendance at the viewing were kept apprised of important points and historical detail. The second viewing room was hung with old masters featuring works by such well known artists as Breughel and Stubbs.

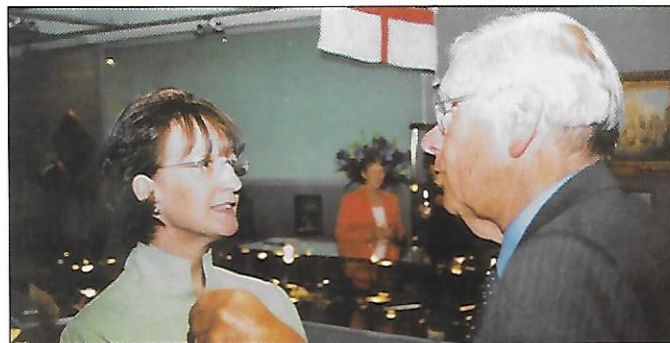
There was a constant flow of wine and canapes including a delicious concoction of smoked chicken breast served between two chopsticks.



*I never would have believed it!*



*A few moments of instruction*



*Roger Worraker and Liz Sibley*

## Ken Muir



*Ken Muir at Chelsea (see page 16)*



*Young ladies with Old Masters*



*A moment of reflection while battle rages*

## HONORARY ASSISTANTS 2005-07



*L to R: Peter Cooper, Jane Lockwood, Martin Beckenham*

At the Audit Court meeting, the undermentioned were elected to serve for two years:

Martin Andrew Beckenham, Peter Dennis Cooper, Jane Charlotte Lockwood and George Edward Smith.

George Smith was prevented from being present and will be unable to serve until he has taken the Oath of Office, which it is hoped will be in November.

The Master recorded the Company's thanks to those who retired from Office on that day, having completed their two years of service.



# UNDETERRED, THE SUMMER COURT DINNER GOES AHEAD

A second terrorist attack on London, in the space of fourteen days, did not prevent or deter Fruiterers from attending, in full force, the Summer Court Dinner at the Skinners' Hall on Dowgate Hill during the evening of July 21st. The Master made a particular reference to the difficult travelling arrangements that many had suffered and thanked all for their presence.

Liverymen, partners and guests enjoyed an exceptionally pleasant evening in the company of some very notable and distinguished invitees. Masters of the Cooks, Environmental Cleaners, Pewterers and Upholders were in attendance along with Christopher Everett, Past Master of the Skinners and a previous headmaster of Tonbridge School.

Halfway through his year the Master reflected on events and thanked those Liverymen who had been responsible for the arrangements. In a relaxed and buoyant mood Peter recalled some of the experiences and

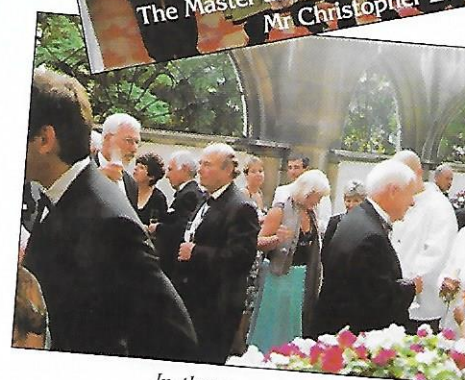
compared life and humour of the fruit industry with that on the floor of the Stock Exchange. His brief, witty yet poignant speech, (hallmarks for which he is earning a positive reputation), was well received by the assembled company. He asserted that the most important buyer of apples in the US was the hamburger chain McDonalds with the introduction of their new, healthier selections.

Christopher Everett, principal guest, and responding on behalf of the guests revealed that in two weeks he and his wife would be celebrating their Golden Wedding anniversary. His theme was coloured by the advancement of years. He drew laughter on the subject of bending down to dress as one becomes less agile. "Seventeen thousand people a year suffer injury while pulling on socks" he asserted and when you get down "you start to think what else can I do while I'm here"? He quoted Lord Callaghan who purportedly said 'you have to lean against a wall to pull on your socks'. Drawing contrasts between the Fruiterers and Skinners he believed that old age has ripened their distinctions. Both have forsaken "their purses" for charitable pursuits.

Reporting that his father had been a passionate grower of top fruit he, himself, was very interested in the growing and eating of fresh fruit. Unlike his grandchildren, Chris Everett confessed a passion for gooseberries and could toss one into the air and catch it in his mouth. Monotony, he concluded, was practised by some religions where the belief allowed a man to only take one wife.



The Master and Wardens with their ladies and Mr Christopher Everett



In the courtyard



Julian and Eileen Cronk with their family



The Masters of The Environmental Cleaners', Pewterers' and Upholders' Companies with their ladies



The Master of the Cooks' Company and his wife with The Master and Jenny



Mr Christopher Everett



At dinner



## LIVERYMAN ANDREW CICLITIRA IS MASTER TURNER

We send our congratulations and best wishes to Andrew who is currently Master of the Turners' Company. In our usual custom we asked Andrew to write some notes on the Company and he tells us: - The Worshipful Company of Turners celebrated its 400th anniversary in 2004. The Company is the 51st in order of precedence and received its charter in 1604. Turning is the craft of using a lathe and in medieval times the Company was responsible for the standards of the various measures for food and drink which were at that time all made of wood. Wood turning has in the recent past had something of a revival which was reflected in a major exhibition the Company staged at Pewterers' Hall to celebrate their 400th anniversary. The Turners are extremely active supporting not only the many professional Turners around the country through a register but also the many hundreds of amateur Turners by means of competition, bursaries and alike. We no longer have a hall, having lost this in the 18th century but are very lucky to have a close association with the Apothecaries Company which is now our "home". When you visit the hall you will see a cabinet full of

many beautiful turned items, which is on permanent display together with a stained glass window with the Company's coat of arms. Our patron saint is Saint Catherine and incorporates the Catherine Wheel. During my year I particularly wish to encourage younger freeman and liveryman to both join and become involved in the Company's many activities.



*Andrew Ciclitira, Master of the Turners and a Fruiterer*

## THE CHERRY AND SOFT FRUIT SHOW AT THE KENT SHOW

2005 has proven to be a vintage year for cherries. The weather has been kind, resulting in one of the heaviest crops in living memory resulting in cherries of exceptional quality.

This was reflected at the show when the judges were hard-pressed to find the eventual winners. The Champion Basket was won by Brian Piper with an outstanding sample of Kordia – a new variety from Eastern Europe. He also won the Company's Medal for the most meritorious exhibit of cherries.

Honorary Assistant Sandy's Dawes won the Market Pack class as well as the class for new unnamed varieties and classes for Sunburst and Colney.

Past Master Henry Bryant won the Peter Lawrence Memorial Trophy with a chip of white cherries – Grove White.

Freeman John Leigh-Pemberton won the class for Stella.

In the Soft Fruit Classes Liveryman Marion Regan won the Elsanta Class. The Company's Medal for the most meritorious exhibit of Soft Fruit was won by Growfresh Ltd.

Hopefully next year will produce as many fine exhibits and the show will return to its previous venue with the benefit of air-conditioning. Grateful thanks must go to Marks and Spencer for their continuing support, to Utopia UK Ltd for sponsoring the Show Schedule and to the Chairman of the Show, John Leigh-Pemberton, for all his hard work in making the show such a success.

It is always a delight to find Liverymen in the "winner's enclosure" and this year has been no exception!



## GO WEST MASTER!

Western International is one of three main fresh produce, wholesale markets of London. Sitting just off the M4 at junction 3, this fully occupied and busy centre of activity never fails to charm visitors with its intimacy and the good humour of its tenants. Moving from its old Brentford home in 1974, the structure and customer base have been constantly evolving. Like Spitalfields, many of the stands are operated by owners whose origins are in the Indian sub-continent and much of the produce on sale and the customers they supply reflect this fact. The market's history is not as long as others but is of equal interest and just as colourful.

The Master, determined to increase his knowledge of the industry, visited the Market with other Fruiterers during the early morning of July 8th. Peter and Jenny were welcomed by George Bray, himself a Liveryman, and accompanied by his wife Sue, and Honorary Assistant Peter Cooper. Uli Hayes, Chief Executive of Western International supported by senior management, was also on hand to answer questions and escort the Fruiterers on their tour. George, (Chairman of the Tenants) and Peter, have businesses in the market and are well versed in the activities of this bustling £400m turnover wholesale centre. There are 86 companies, supplying a geographical area well beyond the precincts of the metropolis.

A feature of the tour provided the Master with a daunting task. The tenants had been advised that a prize would be awarded for the best display on the day. The responsibility fell to The Master to choose from the incredible number of impressive and visually stimulating cascades of fruit and vegetables. Fruity Fresh and A1 Vegetables were the successful contenders and representatives from both organisations received Jeroboams of champagne for their efforts.

Following a tour of the trading areas, Market Manager Bob Marlow explained how the market was dealing with the increasing problem of waste disposal. This is a headache for many administrations and 50% of the £1.4m service charge accounts for the activity. Western International management is looking to dispose of the waste materials in an environmentally acceptable fashion from which an income can also be generated.

Over breakfast the Master paid condolences to those who had been bereaved in the London bombings of the previous day and thanked the hosts for their hospitality while showing the party around this "wonderful market" and expressed a desire to be invited back, if there was to be a Fruiterers visit in 2006.

George Bray assisted by John Chatt, (a Hounslow councillor), spoke of the plans for the new market that should be operational by mid-2007. To be situated on an adjacent piece of land, but closer to the motorway, the 19 acre site will occupy less land but has been designed for greater efficiency. The final act of the Chairman of Tenants was to present The Master and Jenny with a most impressive basket of fresh fruit.



*Graham Brown, The Master, David Formosa and George Bray*

## RETURN TO PORTSMOUTH

Following the planting of a tree in the garden of the Admiral's House at the Naval dockyard Portsmouth, the Master and Jenny were invited to return, along with several others who have assisted in the support of the various causes that are close to the RN's heart. Two garden parties were held on the 13th and 14th July, hosted by Vice-Admiral and Lady Nugent. It was a blistering hot afternoon and many of the guests sought the shade provided by the many trees that grace the area. Following a welcome and announcements those in attendance were treated to a series of entertainments which included a melody of songs and activities dating from the 18th century performed by young seamen, (male and female), dressed in traditional costume. A string quartet and naval band supplied musical melodies while as a finale the Band of The Royal Marines in full kit played a selection of nautical tunes. The Second Sea Lord took the salute accompanied by other military officers and a young cadet.

Photographs were being taken by Leading Seaman Nicky Harper who had so ably recorded the events when the Fruiterers had visited in April for dinner on board HMS Victory. She was in high spirits as she had learned, on the 13th, that she had been promoted to Petty Officer Airman Photographer. Our congratulations go out to her.



*Keeping fit*



*Nicky Harper with The Master*



*The Master and Jenny admire the fruits of his work*



## NEW FREEMEN AND LIVERYMEN

### FREEMEN (By redemption)

On May 19th                      George Leonard Dexter  
    Tommy Leighton

On July 21st                      Ben Hyam  
    Andrew John Sugarman  
    Patrick Otto Rarden  
    Brig His Honour Judge A P Norris



### LIVERYMEN

On May 19th                      George Michael Edwards  
    Andrew Philip Macdonald

On July 21st                      George Leonard Dexter  
    Terence Menelaos Spiby  
    Professor Eve Mittleton-Kelly



*L to R: George Dexter, Eve Mittleton-Kelly  
 and Terence Spiby*

We apologise that we cannot show photographs of the new Freemans either on May 19th or July 21st

## THE INAUGURAL INTER-LIVERY BALL

It was "best foot forward" at The Guildhall on 17th June when The Rt Honourable The Lord Mayor launched this new event.

By no means were all Livery Companies represented; in fact there might not have been room, but the event was well supported.

The Lord Mayor and The Sheriffs were present for part of the evening and were clearly delighted at the response which was in aid of The Lord Mayor's charities, The SSAFA Forces Help and The Fishermen's Mission.

The Master arranged a table and was supported by Past Masters' Hohnen, Tullett and Bryant and The Upper Warden, with their ladies, all looking "Belles of the Ball"! (We mean to refer to the ladies but the picture may make you think otherwise).

Most years there is a similar fund-raising event within the Liveries. Some Liverymen may well have liked to have gone, but it is administratively difficult and time consuming to mail the Livery for all these events. In fact it was advertised in Livery News, but a Friday night in June is not the easiest date.



## OBITUARY

We are sorry to have to report the death of Nemo Ermini since our last issue. We send our sincerest sympathies to his widow and her family. Nemo was a delightful person, a good supporter of the Livery and liked by all who knew him. His Son, Mark, is a Liveryman.

## CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES

To Tom Hilliard we send best wishes for a full and speedy recovery following heart surgery in July.

To Max Bryant ( and his wife) we send congratulations on the birth of their baby, and to Henry Bryant best wishes on assuming the responsibilities of grandparent.

To David Morgan we send best wishes after a recent period of ill health.

To Ken Muir we send our congratulations on receiving a further Gold Award at the Chelsea Flower Show for his strawberries (Photo on Page 11).

To Professor Ian Swingland who has been awarded an Honorary Degree (D.Sc) at The University of Kent.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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