



The Fruiterers' Company NEWSLETTER

Number 48

December 2003



THE LADY MAYORESS LAUNCHES OUR FRUIT BASKETS

It was a great honour for us to be able to lunch at the Mansion House following the Organic Awards, presented by the Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor, on 6th October.

During the lunch The Lady Mayoress launched our initiative of marketing a Fresh Fruit Basket.

This basket can be obtained direct from our nominated supplier, Mack Multiples, who are one of the largest and most successful suppliers of fresh fruits in the UK, thus ensuring us that the highest standards of quality will be maintained.

Mack will donate to our Charitable Trust a sum from each sale to augment our income which is used for a variety of Charitable purposes and to fund our fruit distribution programme within the City of London.

Ordering can be done by telephone or on-line and we have high hopes that many beyond the Livery will find the baskets a suitable and welcome gift.

Why not order one today?



WE PAY OUR ANNUAL DUES TO THE LORD MAYOR

On October 6th The Master made the Annual Presentation of Fruit to the Rt Hon The Lord Mayor at The Mansion House in settlement of the Company's dues.

This ceremony goes back many centuries; Disputes arose from time to time and in 1748 settlement was reached on condition of an annual presentation of not more than twelve bushels of fruit to the Lord Mayor.

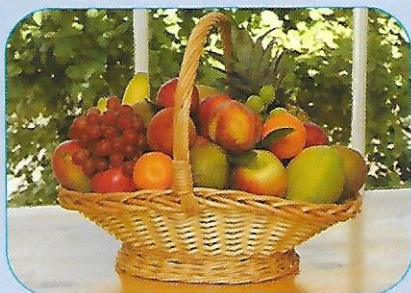
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2004

January 13th	City Food Lecture	Guildhall (admission by ticket only)
January 23rd	St Paul's Day Service Court Lunch	St Mary Abchurch Innholders' Hall
February 16th	Annual Banquet	Mansion House
March 4th	Visit to National Stud And Jockey Club	Newmarket
March 26th	United Guilds Service	St Paul's Cathedral
May 20th	Audit Court Meeting and Dinner	Barber Surgeons' Hall



FRUIT BASKETS ARE NOT
ONLY FOR CHRISTMAS!

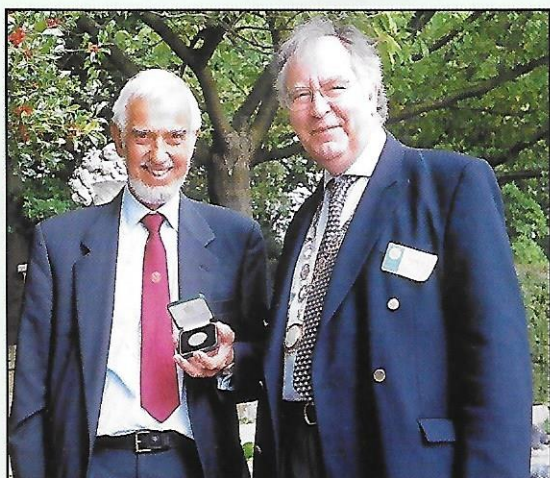
fruit-baskets.co.uk

0845 600 8417

JIM FLEGG SCOOPS THE IOH PRESIDENT'S MEDAL 2003

Congratulations to Dr Jim Flegg OBE FI Hort for being awarded the President's Medal for the year by the Institute of Horticulture.

The Award recognises Jim's lifetime of work devoted to studying the science and practice of fruit culture and husbandry. It acknowledges his significant contributions to the conduct and management of research that has spanned all branches of the discipline of horticulture, and many years of meritorious service devoted to the wellbeing of the Institute.



Jim Flegg played a vital role in establishing HRI as the leading centre for R & D in horticulture. Since 1990 his main functions for HRI have been Head of Information Services and Head of HRI-East Malling (1990-1995) and Director of External Relations (1996-2002).

His career began at East Malling; he then spent three years at MAFF's Plant Pathology Laboratory at Harpenden as a nematologist. Between 1968 and 1975 he combined his interest in natural history with a career in the British Trust for Ornithology, where he rose to the position of Director.

After rejoining East Malling in 1976, he was appointed Head of Zoology in 1977. He remained with the station through the series of changes in the 1980s, and in his later roles was invaluable in advising HRI's Board of Directors and the Chief Executive on scientific and promotional matters.

HARPER ADAMS PRIZEWINNER

The Company's 2003 Student Prize at Harper Adams University College (Newport, Shropshire) was presented by Liveryman Sir Stephen Brown, on behalf of the Master, to Brett Casswell at the College's Presentation Day on 19 September.

Brett's excellent final year project in his degree course was entitled '*An investigation into supplier and retailer relationships in the UK fresh produce supply chain*'. During his project, Brett established, through in-depth interviews with suppliers, retailers and a haulier, that relationships between suppliers and retailers have improved since the days when many fresh produce suppliers felt dissatisfied in their dealings with retailers, perceiving that the balance of risk lay unfairly with themselves. The importance of good communication and improved collaboration was seen by Brett as being crucial in the drive to offering consumers more choice and higher quality fresh produce.

Brett identified that recent supply chain developments including backhauling and factory gate pricing (introduced by retailers to help reduce supply chain costs) were considered by suppliers to be areas of uncertainty that need improving if relationships between themselves and retailers are to improve further. Another key area identified for future improvement was that of the trust between suppliers and retailers.

The College provided very good hospitality for Sir Stephen during his visit and it was clear to him that the Fruiterers' support for the students was very much appreciated.



WE PAY OUR ANNUAL DUES... continued

The Lord Mayor asked that surplus fruit and monies collected from the Livery towards the Presentation be allocated to the Company's distribution of fruit programme within the City.



The Master and the Lord Mayor drank the traditional Loving Cup.

This year the Lord Mayor invited us to hold a lunch in the Salon, which was a great privilege. He and the Lady Mayoress were our guests at the lunch.



A STRONG CITY THEME AT THE MASTER AND WARDENS DINNER

Following the "themes" for the Court Dinners, designed to assist members to bring guests "suitable to the occasion", The Master lined up a formidable array of guests for the dinner held at Ironmongers Hall on November 5th.

The principal guest was Alderman Sir Clive Martin OBE TD DL, a Past Lord Mayor (1999/2000) who replied to the toast of "The Guests", ably proposed by The Master.

Deputy Liveryman Pauline Halliday had served as Sheriff during his Mayoralty and therefore the invitation to Sir Clive, and the chance to meet him again, was most appropriate.

At this dinner the Company takes the opportunity of saying "Thank You" to the recently-retired Sheriffs, and this year we were pleased to entertain Martin Clarke, last year's Lay Sheriff.

Other Liveries were well represented; The Masters of the Glass Sellers, Scriveners, Turners and Framework Knitters were present, together with the Immediate Past Masters of the Parish Clerks, Broderers and Insurers Companies

Among our other guests were the Master of the Ironmongers Company, the Headmaster of the City of London Freeman's School and the High Sheriff of Co Antrim, H E J Montgomery.

The Toast to "The Master and Wardens", who entertained the Court to dinner, was given by

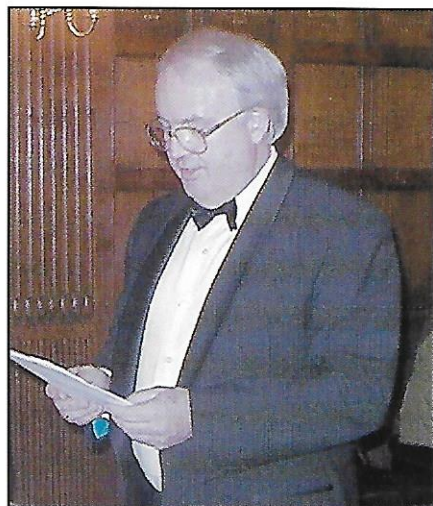
Honorary Assistant Alwyn Thompson in an excellent speech drawing together all the facets and events of the Master's year.

In reply, and making reference to Guy Fawkes Day, the Renter Warden (Peter Bartlett) warned his audience not to expect any fireworks from him and said that he might well be regarded as "the Fall Guy" as the last speaker! He applauded all those members who give valuable time on sub committees and on other projects and events, without which the Company could not successfully operate.

The Hon Chaplain again delighted us with a special Grace for the occasion and led the singing in the continuing absence of a pianist.



The Master and Wardens with our guest of honour



Alwyn Thompson



The Master



Sir Clive Martin

LORD MAYOR GETS FRUITY SALUTE

Robert Finch, the 676th Lord Mayor of London, was paraded before the citizens of the Capital, as custom demands, on Saturday 8th November, under the scrutiny of the BBC TV cameras. This was the longest parade of the Lord Mayor's Show on record, and attracted some fantastic entries, among which were the two floats entered by the Worshipful Company of Fruiterers. The purpose of the event is to present the new incumbent to the City's residents, before taking

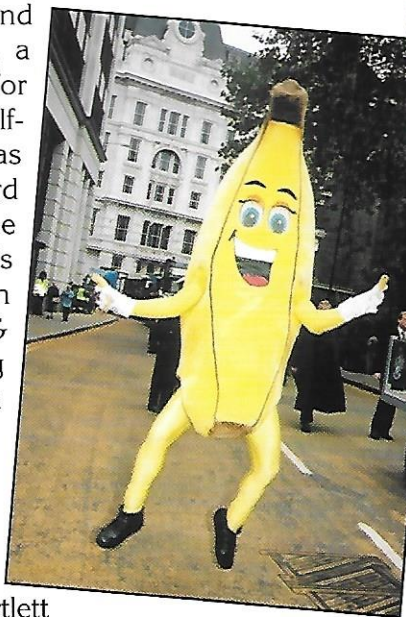
the oath of allegiance at the Law Courts.

Our participation was a tangible illustration of the Company's support for the City of London and the Lord Mayor. The route from London Wall to the Embankment and back, (with a break for lunch at half-way), was

covered at a very brisk pace. The new Lord Mayor's theme is the 'City in Tune' and the Fruiterers endeavoured to harmonise with this perspective. The first float was a horse drawn brewer's dray, hauled by sister shires Minnie & Maggie, loaned and managed by Farming World. Past Master Redsell's niece, Georgina Johnson, resplendent in driver's habit, skilfully drove the float over the entire route. The dray, allotted position 12 in the parade, was identified by the specially prepared signage and the superb fruit decorations, artistically crafted by Celia Mallon, Jenny Bartlett and Jane Lockwood. A cameo of the 'Garden of Eden' bedecked the float with a living 'Tree of Knowledge', entwined by a serpent, and attended by look-alikes Adam & Eve, (modesties preserved by fig-

leaves), and an abundant supply of apples and other fruit, which was handed out to the enthusiastic spectators along the route. The second float was a farm trailer carrying a steel band, 'Hugo & The Hugonaughts', which was towed by Liveryman Will Sibley's vintage tractor, circa 1952. Hugo and his ensemble played continuously along the processional route to the pleasure of the crowds lining the streets and the Fruiterers who accompanied the entry. There were four giant stems of bananas that had been shipped for the occasion from the West Indies and were distributed to grateful recipients along the way.

The Fruiterers' floats, were preceded by the Master, attended by his Wardens, the Clerk, and Beadle. The accompanying entourage consisted of an appropriately dressed Nell Gwynne, clothed in suitable 17th century costume, three Carman Miranda look-alikes, (the sisters Nicola and Philippa Cronk and Clare Bousfield), all



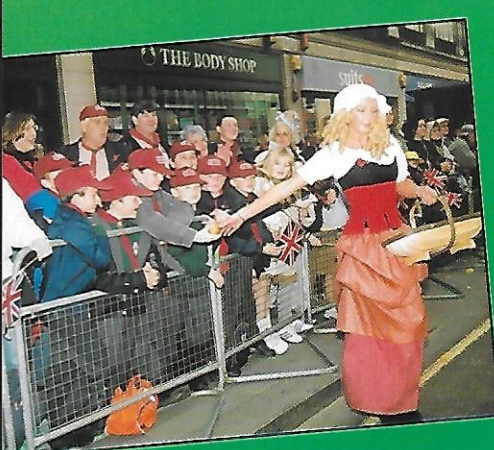
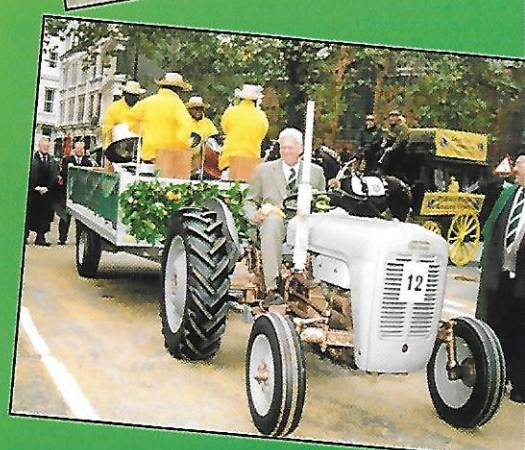
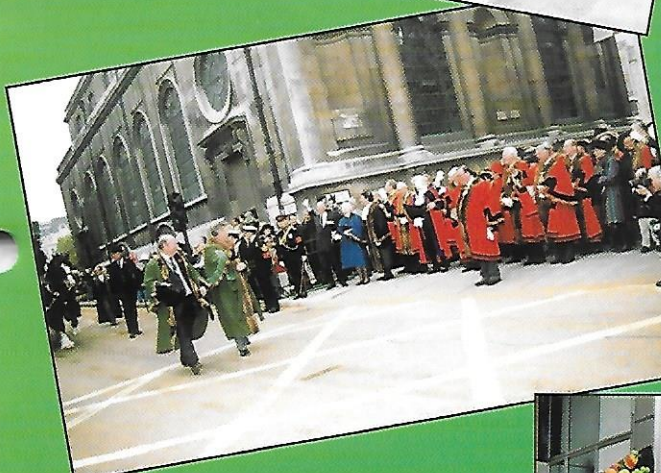
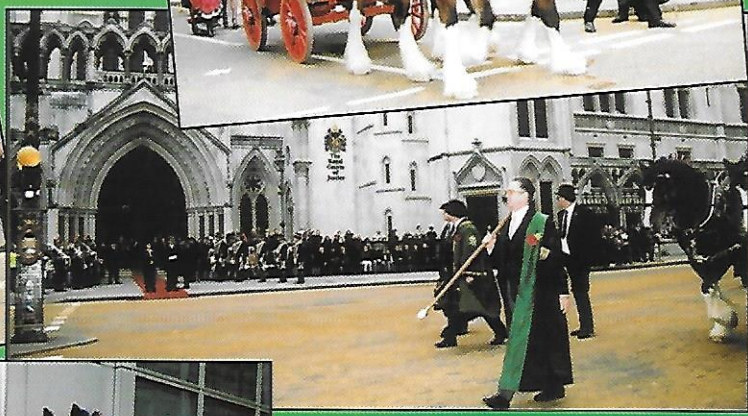
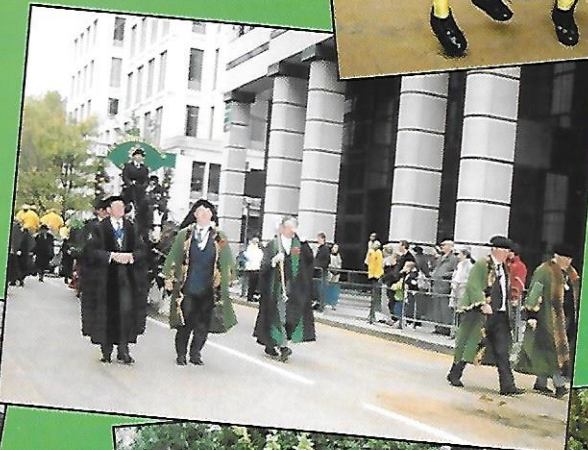
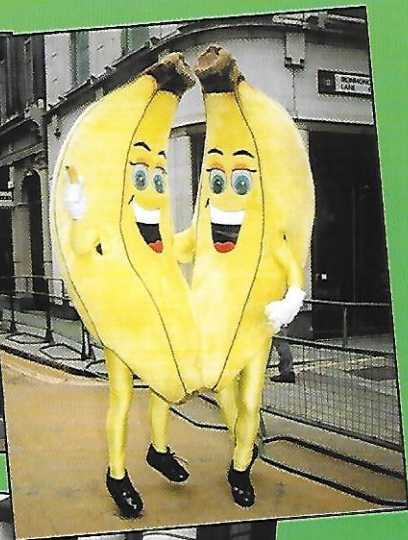
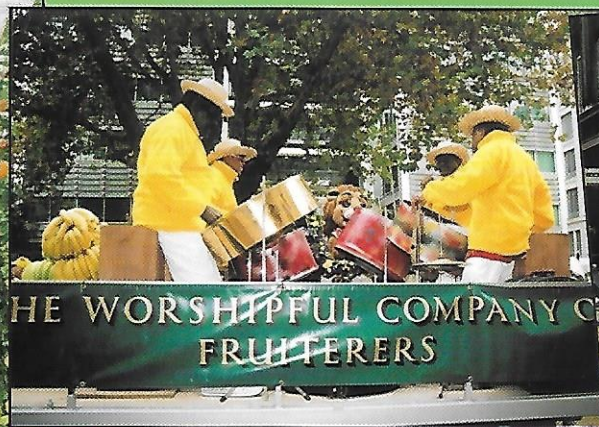
from the Livery, and two Banana-men, whose antics created great amusement. Several Liverymen, partners and children walked with the entries and were active in the

dispensation of fruit.

We have no current plans to participate in the Lord Mayor's Show until 2006, when the 400th anniversary of the granting of a Royal Charter to the Company, will almost certainly be marked with a more ambitious project.

We were fortunate to receive so much generous sponsorship for the 2003 parade which included the following; The Banana Promotion Group, Coregeo, Liveryman George Bray, Honorary Assistant John Olney, Vitacress, Liveryman Will Sibley, The National Fruit Show, Celia Mallon, Jenny Bartlett, Jane Lockwood and many more anonymous contributors who made the whole project possible.





THE MASTER COMES TO THE RESCUE AT LEEDS CASTLE

The Master, a non-practicing fruiterer, stepped in to the breach at the last moment at the National Fruit Show Dinner and replied to the toast of "The Guests" with a stimulating speech with gathered many plaudits from those present.

The National Fruit Show (formerly the Marden Fruit Show) is celebrating 70 years this year. The show is now held at the Kent showground at Detling, having outgrown the available space at Marden in 1992.

The President of the Show is our Honorary Liveryman, The Rt Hon Lord Mayhew of Twysden, PC QC.

The Show is enthusiastically supported and attended by every element of the industry and the marquees are packed with exhibits of the season's harvest and equipment from manufacturers designed to assist the process plus those of the service and ancillary industries that have proliferated in recent years.

The Master, accompanied by the Clerk, was at the Show to award prizes to the winner of the Craftsman's Award and the Fruit Culture Award and to meet the winners of the Company's medals for best exhibits in apple and pear classes. In addition he toured the stands and met many Liveryman exhibitors.

The winners of our medals were:

Best Exhibit of Dessert Apples	Loddington Farm Limited
Best Exhibit of Culinary Apples	J A and N J Bardsley
Best Exhibit of Pears	J A and N J Bardsley



A Reception was held at Leeds Castle prior to the Show Dinner. During the dinner the Master presented the Fruit Culture Award to Patrick Barker (see page 7).

In his reply to the toast of "The Guests" the Master recalled Somerset Maugham's dictum that "At dinner we should eat wisely but not too well and talk well but not too wisely". He went on to talk about the Company, the constituent parts of the membership and the benefits of bringing together not only the fruit growers and the industry but also non-related members from other walks of life and professions.

He went on to record the success of the Initial Top Fruit Conference this summer where we had teamed up with the Marden Fruit Society

Turning to history the Master recalled that a fruit exhibition under the Company's auspices had been held in 1890 where there had been 450 exhibitors and more than 4,500 plates of different fruit shown. The Master at that time had been Alderman Sir James Whitehead who is quoted as saying "A large sum is spent on foreign fruit which might be grown at home, but our orchards and homesteads and cottage gardens have been allowed to decay and die out, probably due to want of technical knowledge".

THE MASTER ATTENDS GRADUATION DAY AT PERSHORE COLLEGE



The Master presents a Certificate and a cheque for £100 to Mr John Edgeley (left) on behalf of the winning student, Peter Mourier. Chris Beardshaw (the 'Flying Gardener') (centre), the College's special guest for the Graduation Day, attended the presentation.

In very good autumnal weather, the Master, with his wife Pauline, attended Graduation Day at Pershore College, Worcestershire on 11 October to present the Company's 2003 Student Prize to Mr Peter Mourier – a mature student with previous work experience in commercial fruit cropping. The College's special guest was Chris Beardshaw, the 'Flying Gardener' an ex-Pershore student and ex-member of the lecturing staff there.

In the final year of his BSc Hons Horticulture course, Peter completed two excellent projects concerning the commercial growing and marketing in the UK of Braeburn apples and grapevines. Unfortunately, for personal reasons, he was unable to attend the Graduation Day, so the Master presented the Fruiterers' cheque for £100 and a Company certificate on his behalf to Mr John Edgeley, Peter's supervisor.

NATIONAL FRUIT SHOW AWARDS

The Craftsman Award



This has been awarded this year to Michael Rudman

Michael has worked at the Blackmoor Estate for 25 years where he is now foreman. He has established a much-

respected reputation for his all-round nursery and orchard skills and, with tree-training especially, he is an acknowledged expert.

"Michael is a very worthy recipient of this Award-which itself is a significant mark of the vital importance of hands-on skills in fruit production of the highest quality" said the Master presenting the Award to him.

Fruit Culture Award

This year's winner is Patrick Barker.

Patrick has been given this prestigious award for his

long and much-valued practical contributions to the fruit industry.

He started his notable career on the family fruit farm on the Bedfordshire/Cambridgeshire borders before taking an HND course at Writtle College under the supervision of Austin Healey. Then, returning to the family farm, he contributed for 20 highly fruitful years to the family's business – helping to build their reputahon for, especially perhaps, the "finest pears one could get".

When the family farm was sold, Patrick moved south to join the ICI Crop Protection Team in Kent. When that was reorganised, he took up a position in 1982



as an adviser with Twymans Agncultural Merchants, which, in turn, became part of the UAP business.

Patrick retired last year. He is a worthy winner and we congratulate him.

CARVERY LUNCH AND COMMON HALL 3rd SEPTEMBER

There was another informal carvery lunch held at Butchers' Hall on 3rd September, where members were again able to treat themselves to the quality fayre available on these occasions.

The guest of honour was Lady Jane Garratt, Chief Executive of "The Brogdale Trust", the all important and almost unique gene pool of apple, pear and plum varieties.

After lunch the Livery met in Common Hall and received reports from the chairmen of the Sub Committees as well as from the Master.



The highlight of the event was a talk by Violetta Vitanova, an MBA student, sponsored by the Awards Council. She provided information on her research project that is a study into the state of the English top fruit industry. Facts and figures relating to it's decline and the methodology employed in the investigation demonstrated that this was a worthwhile and most important piece of work. It is due to be concluded in



late autumn and the presentation of the findings is scheduled for the last week in November. Violetta's power point presentation was packed with information of a useful and interesting nature.

Common Hall was not attended as well as it should have been. This can have been for a number of reasons, timing, business commitments, harvest etc. The editors would be pleased to hear from Liverymen as to how it might be improved or rescheduled.

Meanwhile it has been decided not to hold Common Hall next year.

FRUITERERS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Frustrated and thwarted by a variety of circumstances, the deferred Fruiterers Northern Ireland visit did eventually occur between the 4th and 6th September, 2003. Liveryman Deputy Pauline Halliday, wife of the Master and currently Deputy Governor of The Honourable the Irish Society, was responsible for arranging the fun-packed and very full itinerary to this glorious part of the United Kingdom. Focussing on the Livery Companies Plantation of Ulster, in which the Fruiterers had a small involvement, as an Associated Company of the Vintners Company, the 60 hours embraced a most interesting and varied syllabus of activities

Fifteen members the Company arrived at Belfast City Airport from Heathrow on Day 1, being met by Edward Montgomery The Irish Society's Representative. Collecting four additional Fruiterers from Aldegrove, the expanded group were driven to the first venue, Shanes Castle, home of Lord & Lady O'Neill and occupied by the

family for 1,000 years. Lady O'Neill escorted the party around the gardens the 2,000-acre estate. The home is graced by paintings executed by Sir Joshua Reynolds and many other great artists.

Mayola Golf Club was the next stop, where the Fruiterers were fortified by lunch in the company of Lady Mayola, (widow of a former NI Prime Minister), and Commander Peter Campbell, (a former Irish Society Representative). Following the intake of sustenance the coach carried the intrepid travellers to Bellaghy Bawn, to plant a tree, on the site of the original Vintners Plantation of 1613. The Red Malus, with its apples turning red, will act as a local Christmas-tree. Cider was served as refreshment during the visit.

The hotel at which the party rested was the Bushtown House Hotel. Forty-five minutes after arrival the group was ready to depart for Cutts House, in Coleraine, which is the HQ of the Honourable The Irish Society in



Northern Ireland and where formal greetings were made by the Governor Alderman Sir Richard Nichols and Lady Nichols. The Master planted a Black Mulberry which had first been introduced by King James I, the monarch who was also responsible for the Plantation of Ulster. Presentations were then made by Edward Montgomery, on the present role of the Irish Society, and by Sir Richard on an education programme "Step Up", by the University of Ulster, where he is also Chancellor. Supper was then taken in this elegant Georgian house. Joining the group the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Coleraine stimulated some lively and interesting discussions before the party departed for their beds.



DAY 2

Weather at dawn was somewhat grim, but after a hearty NI breakfast, the Fruiterers were driven to Londonderry to 'walk-the-walls'. Sidetracked *en-route* there was an unscheduled call on the Guildhall where there was a chance meeting with a former Lord Mayor of Londonderry who insisted on embracing a visit to the Council Chamber with a quick peek at the Mayor's Parlour. The walk was illuminated by Edward Montgomery, who regaled the Fruiterers with significant historic dates, events and sites – relating to views seen from the walls. Leaving Londonderry after an impromptu café visit, the party moved to the University of Ulster for lunch. The Provost Professor, Peter Roebuck, greeted the Fruiterers. Later Alderman Sir Richard Nichols, now in his capacity as University Chancellor and accompanied by Lady Nichols, joined the visitors. Over lunch the Provost revealed that there were about 100,000 trees on the campus. Although a tree, a Mountain Ash, was due to be planted by the Science Block in November, the Master, undeterred, did leave a suitably inscribed plaque at the dedicated site where the tree will be subsequently planted.

There are no cobwebs to be blown away if you live in Northern Ireland. The next stop, the Giant's Causeway

on the Antrim coast demonstrated this fact. The weather was horrendous, but following a short film, the brave Fruiterers observed the watchwords, "The Password Is Fortitude", and descended onto this magnificent geological structure forged by incredible forces. Ideas of warming influences seized the imagination of the Master during this dalliance with nature and although a visit to the Bushmills Distillery was proposed time did not permit and the group returned to the hotel. Dinner on Day 2 was taken at the Harmony Hill Country House on the Causeway Coast, where Richard Wilson, the proprietor, greeted the diners with a glass, or two of bubbly. The menu had been cleverly designed around the Fruiterers' coat-of-arms and each course related to a fruit. Following a repast relished by all, the Master toasted the co-owners in a short speech to which Past Master Hugh Kelsey responded by thanking the Master for the arrangements. The principal guest for the evening was Hugh Montgomery.

DAY 3

First stop, Benvardeen House and Gardens, where Hugh and Edward Montgomery were waiting for the

party under blue skies and bathed in sunshine. A Damson tree was planted by the Master, assisted by the hosts, Past Master Hugh Kelsey and the Renter Warden. A fairly swift tour of the gardens followed, the house of which has accommodated the Montgomery family since 1798.

Leaving Benvardeen, the coach carried the travellers back to the airport for the return flight to Heathrow. Before departure, the Master thanked the participants for their support and company during the excursion. He also announced and suggested that the surpluses from the trip should be donated to the "Step Up" programme. This proposal met with universal acclaim amongst the tourists.

Thanks were also expressed to Liveryman Will Sibley, for supplying the trees, but who sadly could not accompany the party.



FRUITERERS RISE TO THE CHALLENGE OF THE ADDINGTON

It was good news for the Fruiterers Golfing Society that our new President Tom Hilliard was able to join us for the Joint Livery Golf Day on October 2nd as he put in a card with 40 points helping us to win the Fan Makers Cup for the first time.



Our winning team

We returned to The Addington, the original venue for the event, to find the course much improved and a little more friendly after the long dry summer.

The Fan Makers included Frank Stansil in their team.

It was great to see him again after an absence of some years as he is the only surviving "original organiser" of the event which he started with Brian Banks and Robert Sice.

The Carmen were well represented and teams also entered from The Environmental Cleaners, The Woolmen, The Actuaries and, for the



The runners-up



Taking the cup!

first time both The Founders and Fletchers Companies.

We won with 108 points, with the Environmental Cleaners and the Carmen not far behind.

Our best three scores came from Tom Hilliard, Dick Stratton and Ivor Robins.

The Founders and Fletchers have had an annual match for some years; they sought to join us to participate with us as well as have their own match simultaneously. "We thoroughly enjoyed it" Tony Cookson told us. "It is much more fun to meet others and we are planning to take the cup before long!" he added.

The traffic caused problems for some participants; if we return to The Addington, we will try and change the timings.



Winner of 'Nearest the Pin'

IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE CHRISTMAS!

In order to meet the Editors' deadline, I am sitting in the warm but very late Autumn sunshine! I cannot believe that the Festive season is just five weeks away.

I have felt most privileged to have been your Master during the past year. Among the many pleasures of holding the Office as Master of our Company is the ability to send best wishes for the Festive Season to all our Liverymen, the many that I have had the pleasure of meeting during the year and those whom I have not met for whatever reasons. In our Christmas card last year there was a drawing of Father Christmas involved in a tree planting. An omen, to be sure, of what was to follow! Many will remember the start of our plantings programme to celebrate the 800th year of the Mayoralty. The programme has been maintained under the Awards Council and expanded.

This year I planted trees to record our visit to the Barbican City Walls, at West Dean, the worthy winner of The Garden of the Year competition, with which we are most happy to remain involved, at The All England Lawn Tennis Club, near our home in Wimbledon, and in Ulster when the Company renewed our connection with The Honourable The Irish Society. These tree plantings bring focus to many happy social and educational visits by our Livery, and seem to be well enjoyed.

Our Newsletters have continued to keep us up to date with our activities, and for this I would like to thank our deeply committed editors. It has been a year of initiatives while maintaining our traditional events and meetings and I have enjoyed them all.

Like my immediate predecessor I had allowed my attendances to slip because of business pressures since I retired as Assistant Clerk in 1980. Pauline, meanwhile, made progress within the City and I am pleased that she has given me maximum support despite her round of duties.

No Master can succeed without the back up of his Wardens, the Clerk, Committee Members, Ceremonial Spade Carriers and The Court. I am most grateful to all of them and to so many members for supporting me.

On 4th September I planted a Red Malus Tree at the top of and overlooking Castle Street at Bellaghy Bawn, which, due to its position and red berries will serve as the local Christmas tree. Wherever you and your family are, Pauline and I hope that you will have a very happy Christmas!

And yes, our Christmas card this year will have a fruit flavour!

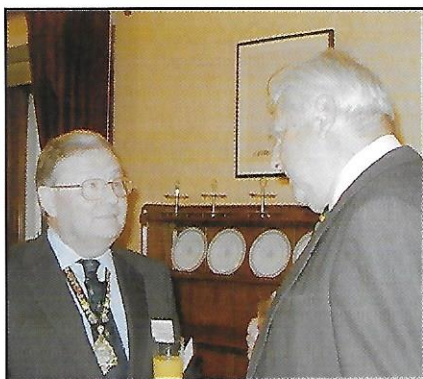
RECEPTION AT THE HOUSE OF LORDS



Past Master Donald Cryan and Apprentice Peter McDermott, with the Master's enthusiastic blessing, organised a reception at the House of Lords for Fruiterers who have in recent years received their freedom and the Apprentices of the Com-

pany. Honorary Liveryman, the Rt. Honourable The Lord Mayhew of Twysden, was the host for an extremely popular and enjoyable evening held in the Attlee room situated in the centre of parliament. Following welcoming and introductory speeches from The Master and Past Master Cryan, Lord Mayhew conducted the visitors through the two houses, spicing the tour with amusing and factual anecdotes. For those who have not visited this centre of British democratic administration there are many riveting sites, scenes and a smell of history moulding and shaping our Country's destiny. The magnificent edifice also embraces Westminster Hall, where the party paused to contemplate the scenes that this ancient structure had witnessed since its original construction, and there are many. When one observes the two chambers, their size, and the cramped conditions that the Lords and MPs work in one is surprised that the mechanism of government still works so efficiently. The various rooms are hung with superb paintings depicting punctuation marks and significant personages in British history, while a multitude of sculptures present lifelike manifestations of important parliamentary personalities.

The view from the Attlee Room windows gave an appreciation of how powerful and close is the Thames to this centre of government at high tide. All who had the privilege of being in attendance agreed that the experience had been memorable and most worthwhile.



OBITUARIES

We are sad to report the deaths of the following Livermen.

Dame Mary Donaldson GBE (Honorary Liveryman)

Donald Mack OBE (Past Master). A tribute to Donald appears elsewhere in this issue.

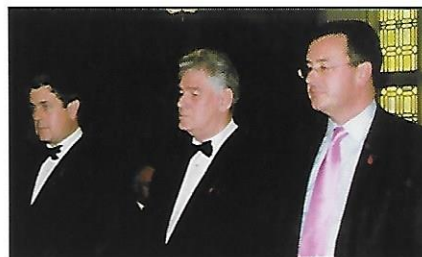
NEW FREEMEN AND LIVERYMEN

Freedom by redemption – On November 5th

David John Lane Freer Anderson

James Ditchburn

Mark Gerard Hoban M.P.



Livery – On November 5th

Rupert Thomas Best Jonathan Matthew Olins

Roger Arthur Powdrill Sarah Louise Randell



ST PAUL'S DAY 2004

Our celebrations this year will be on Friday 23rd January 2004 as the 25th falls on a Sunday.

The preacher at the Livery Service will be the Very Reverend Victor Stock, Dean of Guildford Cathedral

The Master will give the traditional Lunch to the Court at Innholders Hall afterwards. The remaining spaces will be available to Liverymen and their partners up to the maximum capacity of the Hall.

DENNIS SKULIKAS – FRUITERERS SANDWICH COURSE STUDENT 2003

The 2003 Fruiterers' Studentship was awarded to Dennis Skulikas to enable him to work with Dr. Julie Graham in the Plant Pathology Department of Scottish Crop Research Institute (SCRI), Invergowrie, Dundee. This Department is world famous for breeding raspberry cultivars and controlling diseases that attack this crop. Root Rot caused by *Phytophthora fragariae* var *rubi* is currently a major scourge causing growers very substantial financial losses every year. Disease resistance is an environmentally friendly and efficient means of controlling the pathogen. Learning the position of resistance genes on raspberry chromosomes makes breeding quicker and more effective. Dennis researched means for marking the position of genes by modern molecular, biological, techniques. Prior to his arrival, Dr. Graham had crossed the resistant North American cultivar 'Latham' with the susceptible European cv 'Glen Moy'. Using DNA extracted from progeny of this cross, Dennis was able to mark the position of three resistance genes on a raspberry linkage map. Dennis thanked the Fruiterers Company for generously sponsoring his work and his colleagues for making his time at Invergowrie enjoyable and worthwhile. "This Scholarship has allowed me to understand the realities of scientific research in a truly wonderful Research Station placed in a beautiful setting" he commented.



MARKETS COMMITTEE OF THE CORPORATION OF LONDON DINNER

It has been customary for the Markets Committee of the Corporation of London to entertain appropriate guests, at a dinner held annually, at different Livery Halls within the City. This year the Drapers Hall in Throgmorton Street was the venue and the Chairman of the Committee, Daniel Caspi, the principal host, has recently been admitted to the Freedom of the Fruiterers. The event was attended by many City dignitaries, the Ambassador for Norway, His Excellency Mr Brautaset accompanied by his wife, Livery Masters and senior management from the Corporation and other London Markets. The Master of the Fruiterers' was present accompanied by the Clerk. The response on behalf of the guests, was given by the Right Honourable Michael Jack, MP for Fylde.

The Chairman's speech, proposing the guests, was a brave and robust erudition gently chastising government on their reluctance to pronounce on the future of the London Markets.

Almost 150 diners heard the principal speaker lambaste government procrastination and policy which was influencing Corporation markets in a negative fashion.



Chairman of the Corporation's Market Committee Daniel Caspi addresses the diners



The Clerk, The Master and Leif Mills, Chairman of the Covent Garden Authority

FREEDOMS OF THE CITY OF LONDON

In readiness of presenting themselves to The Court for Admission to the Livery, Sarah Randell and Roger Powdrill were admitted to the Freedom of London in ceremonies at Guildhall on October 31st. On this occasion their sponsor attended and joined in the toast of "The Youngest Freeman"

All new Freeman receive instructions from the Clerk as to the required procedures and the closing dates for applications. We publish below the closing dates for applications for 2004 and the dates of the meetings of the Court of Aldermen.



COURT OF ALDERMEN DATES 2004 and CLOSING DATES FOR FREEDOM OF THE CITY APPLICATIONS

CLOSING DATE	COURT DATE
9th December 2003	6th January 2004
2nd February 2004	17th February 2004
8th March 2004	23rd March 2004
19th April 2004	4th May 2004
24th May 2004	8th June 2004
5th July 2004	20th July 2004
6th September 2004	21st September 2004
11th October 2004	26th October 2004
15th November 2004	30th November 2004

DONALD MACK OBE



Few in the livery could lay better claim to being fruiterers than Donald Mack who died at the end of August. Born at the heart of the industry in Covent Garden in 1924 he was immersed in the fruit business until his last days.

After serving with the Royal Navy he returned from the war to resurrect the family business in road transport and

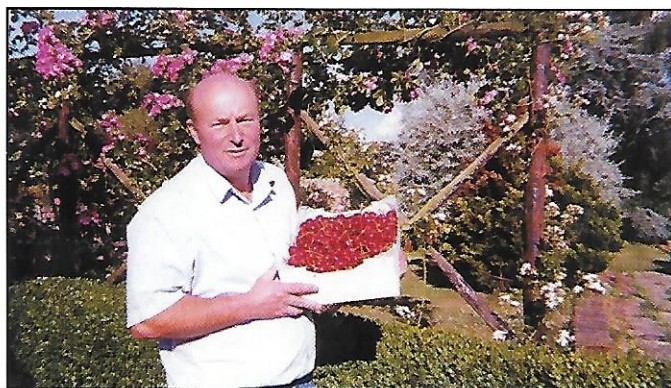
importing fruit. With his brother Matthew he set about rebuilding the Mack produce business, re-establishing contacts with exporters throughout the world and then acquiring a large wholesaler of home-grown produce. The first of many acquisitions this led to the business becoming one of the largest operators in the wholesale markets and suppliers of produce to the UK multiples, a position it occupies to this day.

Donald was closely involved in the affairs of the fruit industry as Chairman then president of Covent Garden Tenants Association for many years, and received an OBE for his services in 1971.

He nurtured a love of the Fruiterers Company joining the Livery in 1955 and becoming Master in 1974. Thereafter he devoted much of his time to the Company especially through the then Fruit Culture Council, which became the Fruiterers Awards Council in 1989. For many years he was a member of the Master's Committee to which he brought his considerable experience and knowledge particularly to further the Company's educational and charitable objectives. His wise counsel on the Court is sadly missed.

We extend our sympathies to his wife June, daughter Lindy and son Liveryman Christopher

OUR NEW MASTER IS AT THE SHARP END OF THE INDUSTRY



These cherries won an award and were sent to HRH The Queen

Henry Bryant has been nominated as Master of the Company for 2004 and expects to be elected at the St Paul's Day Court meeting on January 23rd.

Henry was born in 1948 and is the son of a fruit grower, the late Jack Bryant. Educated at Selwyn House, Broadstairs and then at Rugby. Henry left school and spent time in New Zealand, getting first hand experience in fruit activities as well as sheep. Returning to the UK, he worked at Highland Court Farm near Canterbury in Kent before joining his father in partnership at The Bounds near Faversham. He continued to farm the property, growing Apples, Pears, Asparagus, Plums, Cherries, Blackcurrants and Kentish Cobnuts, and rearing Free-Range Bronze Turkeys.

Henry lives with Heather Gare, an Australian nurse, and has a daughter Sophie, and son Max, who has

recently become an apprentice to the Livery. *A mixture of Rugby and Australia needs careful stirring!*

Henry was proposed for the Livery in 1976 by the late George Stewart and seconded by the late Tom Miller who donated the well known Company City map, and was known affectionately as "Miller the Map".

Henry has won a number of medals and awards for his fruit at The Cherry and Soft Fruit Show and is a member of the Show's Committee and a Joint Chief Steward.

"I am looking forward to entertaining the Livery at our home on 30th June after a visit to nearby Belmont House. This will be a chance to visit a working fruit farm". Henry has a varied programme lined up and his Banquet will be at the Mansion House. "Heather and I look forward to meeting Liverymen at as many of the company's events as possible during the coming year".

Henry and Heather with labrador Wren and her puppies



THE 2003 ORGANIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS



We were delighted that The Right Hon The Lord Mayor invited us to the Mansion House on October 6th and kindly presented this year's awards.

For a second year Waitrose Ltd had generously sponsored the Awards and John Foley was present and joined in the presentations on behalf of his Company

Past Master Tony Redsell (in the absence of Laurence Olins, Chairman, Awards Council) announced the winners. He reported that many strong entries had been received in all categories of the Awards, and from large and small producers.

"Next year we look forward to seeing the quality of the entries rise even higher and to having even more entries from smaller producers who certainly have as much to offer as their larger scale counterparts for the judges 'scrutiny', he said.

There were three classes and, in addition, the judges gave an award for 'Highly Recommended'. Each winner receives a cheque and an engraved fruit bowl.

Organic Research and Development

Winner Horticultural Research International (HRI) at Wye (Dr Peter Darby) for their new variety of dwarf hop which has improved resistance against aphids and thus enables growers to produce high yields without the use of insecticides.

This new variety has already been taken up commercially by a major brewer. (Adnams)

Farm Environmental Standards

Winner Snitterfield Fruit Farm, Warwickshire (Mr Steve Dawkes) for their holistic approach and outstanding achievement at whole farm level.

Organic Horticultural Production

Winner Marshall's of Butterwick, Lincolnshire, for their outstanding and innovative Agronomy

Highly Commended

Wight Salads (Isle of Wight)



MIXING WITH THE WESTERN FRUIT FRATERNITY



George and Sue Bray

London Fruit Markets have prided themselves in organising and staging memorable and most enjoyable dinner dances for their tenants and distinguished guests. It has always been impossible to identify which authority organises the event that leaves the most indelible impressions. But for certain, each of the three, elevates the content to a higher dimension each year. In the calendar, Western International Market leads the season in late autumn and on Saturday 1st November, George Bray, a Liveryman of the Fruiterers' Company and Chairman of the Western International Tenants Association, and

his wife Sue, raised future expectations by hosting an event of outstanding quality at The Royal Garden Hotel, Kensington. The guests were treated to an evening of splendid fare, hospitality and entertainment.

The Master, accompanied by Pauline, were two of the principal guests, and entered into the spirit of the occasion. Fruit people are renowned for their hospitality, good humour and optimism. These characteristics were well displayed in West London on the night of the 1st.

THE CITY OF LONDON FLOWER SHOW – 1-2 SEPTEMBER 2003

The Corporation of London has encouraged an annual 'Flower Show' at the Guildhall for a number of years. Although to the uninitiated, not an event that attracts fruit participation, surprises are in store. The Gardeners Company, The National Allotment Society and a host of other associated societies display their credentials and wares. The Upper Warden first encouraged the Worshipful Company of Fruiterers to become involved in 2002 and this was followed by participation in 2003. Supported by Brogdale, samples of ten varieties of little known dessert, English apple varieties, were displayed, attracting considerable interest from thousands of visitors. Our

display was manned by personnel from the company, over the two day duration of the Show in September. It became apparent to those in attendance that there exists a tremendous, latent interest in the subject matter that was exhibited. Plans are already in place to inject a much stronger

Fruit Tasting!



The Lady Mayoress



CITY FOOD LECTURE 2004

The Company, together with six other Liveries, is promoting a further City Fruit Lecture at Guildhall on 13th January 2004 at which the lecture will be given by Sir Francis McKay (Chairman, Compass Group plc).

All Liverymen have been invited but there is a limit on tickets available to each Company.

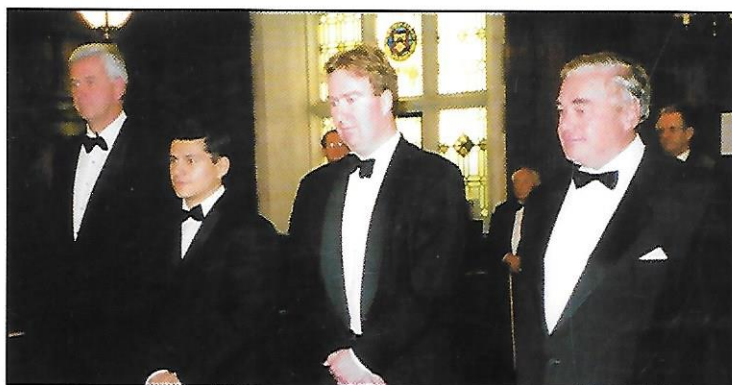
Full details will appear in our April issue.

NEW APPRENTICES

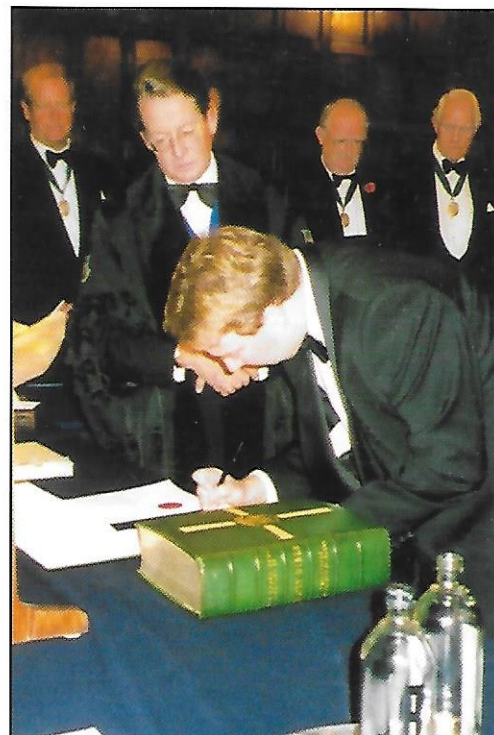
The number of Apprentices under the 2000 scheme continues to grow. There was a reception in October at the House of Lords (see page 11) for a meeting of apprentices, organised by Past Master Donald Cryan (Past Master responsible for apprentices)

Two further Indentures were sealed at the Court meeting on November 5th and those were in respect of:

Max Bryant (Son of Henry)	Apprentice Master J R Henley
Tristan Kitchener	Apprentice Master W A Sibley



left:
Before the
Court



right:
Max
Bryant

CHARITABLE TRUST DONATIONS 2003

The Master has authorised the following donations from the Company's Charitable Trust for this year on behalf of all Liverymen.

The Battle of Britain Memorial Fund
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal
Save the Children Fund (The Lord Mayor's Charity)
Sheriffs and Recorder's Fund
British Red Cross
KME Appeal
Bridewell Foundation Campaign
City of London Police Widows
St Mary Abchurch

LEWIS AWARD 2004

The Court, at their meeting on 5th November, accepted the recommendation from the adjudication committee for this triennial award as to the winner for 2004.

The award, which takes the form of an engraved silver coaster, will be presented by The Master at the Banquet to be held in February, at which time the name will be revealed!

CONGRATULATIONS

- TO Bobby and Doris Manners who will celebrate their Golden Wedding in January.
- TO Liveryman Deputy Pauline Halliday who has been elected as Renter Warden of the Farriers Company.

MESSAGE OF THANKS

June Mack and her family would like everyone to know how much they appreciated all the kind messages of sympathy and condolence which they received following Donald's death

BEQUEST

The late Harry Lewis (Past Master) included a bequest to the Fruit Culture Trust in his will. There is now the Stead Cup which records legacies and his name will be engraved on it.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The editors would like to thank The Master, The Upper Warden, Alwyn Thompson, Pauline Halliday, Ray Vale, David Shapley, David Hope-Mason, Geoff Dixon, Jenny Bartlett and the Clerk for their contributions to this issue

DONATION

The costs of this issue have been donated anonymously.