



The Fruiterers' Company NEWSLETTER

Number 50

August 2004



THE MASTER IS A WINNER AT THE CHERRY AND SOFT FRUIT SHOW



It is a great delight to us all that our Master was awarded The Company's Medal for the Most Meritorious Exhibit of Cherries at this year's Show.

The Show, founded in 1924, is celebrating its 75th anniversary.

On inception the Show was in association with the County Show and it has continued the association to this day, although on half a dozen occasions it was held in London.

The Show is autonomous, although under the auspices of the NFU, being run by a small committee consisting principally of growers. It relies on the support of its sponsors and the sale of the competing fruit at the end of the three days. It has raised surpluses which have been donated for research and development projects for the industry.

The main classes are for cherries, strawberries, raspberries and other soft fruit. Judges are drawn from the ranks of growers, marketers, researchers and field advisors.

By long-standing tradition the prize basket of cherries is donated to Her Majesty The Queen.

The Show has had a strong association with the livery, which has supplied the majority of Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and Chief Stewards. These include Past Master Garth Doubleday, Liverymen Wakeley and Leigh-Pemberton (Chairmen), Past Master

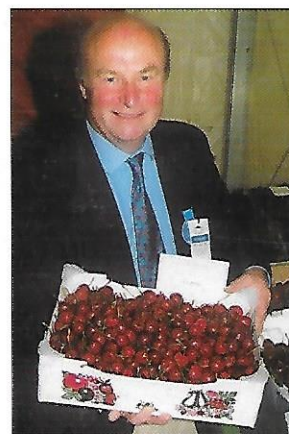
Redsell and the current Master (Chief Stewards). Each has been a successful competitor in his day but we believe the current Master is the first winner to win while in Office.

Other Past Masters associated with the Show include Laurence Olins (sponsor and judge) and Hugh Kelsey (judge and competitor).

It is thought that the show is unique in the world as a competitive arena for professional growers of cherries and soft fruit. Every year it provides an impressive display of the very best that our industry can produce and it is one of the major attractions of the Kent County Show.

The Show was founded by W Talbot Edmonds (a prominent grower of the time) and J Hillier French (then Secretary of the NFU for Kent)

Congratulations to The Master and all the other winners this year!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| September 6th & 7th | City Flower Show Guildhall |
| September 29th | Election of The Lord Mayor Guildhall |
| October 7th | Joint Livery Golf Addington GC |
| October 13th | Harvest Festival St Mary Abchurch Informal Carvery Butchers Hall Apprentices Meeting |
| October 20th & 21st | National Fruit Show Detling |
| October 22nd | Presentation of Fruit Mansion House Presentation of Organic Awards |
| November 11th | Master and Wardens Dinner Innholders Hall |
| January 25th 2005 | City Food Lecture |

FIRST ENDEAVOUR PAYS DIVIDENDS



The Royal Bath & West Show was held at its established showground on the outskirts of Shepton Mallet between the 1st and 3rd of June. In the past three years the Company has become more involved in the event, principally through its contacts with the English Cider industry.

The production of cider apples, although not as important in tonnage terms as dessert or culinary varieties, still contributes towards the nation's fresh produce industry and warrants support. We have donated a Cup for annual competition,

being awarded to the supreme champion in the cider class as adjudicated by a panel of distinguished and knowledgeable experts. The show is also a shop front for other British foods, crafts, agricultural disciplines and country pursuits. It attracts exhibitors from a wide spectrum of industries and visitors from all over the country.

From a very strong field of competitors, a "well deserving" champion was selected in the form of Michael Cobb. Michael is a local man and amateur brewer and he entered samples of his first ever five-gallon efforts. Made from home grown garden apples (both unidentified), one a cooker and one a dessert, two types of cider were produced. The one based on the cooking variety won him the ultimate accolade. Unassuming and totally modest, he collected his award from The Master

Lord Whitty, Minister of State, made a number of other presentations including a cup presented by The Pewterers Company and Liveryman Rupert Best, a senior steward, took great care that our party was well looked after.

A SUMMER VISIT TO THE MASTER'S GRASS ROOTS



The Summer Event this year was held on 30th June and took the form of a Livery Visit to Belmont, a beautiful Georgian Mansion near Faversham, and lunch at the Master's Fruit Farm at Hernhill.

The day started at Belmont with coffee in the magnificent gardens followed by conducted tours of the House, the home of the Harris family.

The House is owned by the Harris Belmont Charity and contains a famed collection of clocks. General George Harris bought the house in 1801 with the prize money from his successful military career in India. He was created Lord Harris in 1815. The charity was created by the 5th Lord Harris with the aim of preserving the Estate, the House and it's contents for future generations to enjoy and learn of the family's involvement in British History.

A convoy of motor cars then moved off to Hernhill to the farm, a mass of fruit trees and bushes and an eye opener for non-fruit members!

As might well have been expected there was a strong attendance by grower members with their ladies. To our delight our Senior Past Master, Garth Doubleday, was able to come with Alison and Past Master Michael Barton was also present. It was lovely to see them.

We were also especially pleased to see Michael Stewart and his wife. Michael's father, the late George Stewart, had proposed The Master for the Livery some 28 years ago. Eric and Harriet Fraunfelter had stopped off on their way from the USA to their French home to be with us. John Dunham was able to come

and attended the tree planting at Belmont, where the Master planted a Bramley tree in commemoration of the visit. The tree planting programme continues to record the 800th year of the Mayoralty of the City of London in 1989 at places of interest where the public visits.

The Master also welcomed Liveryman Pip Arnold, who was looking very fit! He formally gifted a silver Sieve (See our story on Page 8) which now carries a silver plaque denoting his family's association with the sieve. It is hoped that the Livery will be able to see the sieve in use on a ceremonial occasion before too long.

This was a very happy day and everyone was grateful to The Master for inviting us and entertaining us. Before leaving many took the opportunity of a short farm visit to see the different varieties of fruits grown. The magnificent cherries (Home produced!) had been eagerly devoured during lunch which included English Strawberries provided by Sandys Dawes who, with his wife, was among those present.



THE NUFFIELD FARMING SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

The Company, as part of the 400th anniversary of the granting of our Charter, is to fund a Nuffield Farming Scholarship.

The Nuffield Foundation was founded in 1943 by Lord Nuffield of Morris Motors fame; its goal was to provide support for health and social well being including Fellowships and Scholarships in medicine.

The then Vice President of the NFU suggested that scholarships be made available to farmers to study overseas following the major war effort in agriculture. In 1947 the Foundation launched its first Nuffield Farming Scholars.

By 1956 the number of Scholars had increased to eight per annum and, as the scheme was clearly a great success, the farming industry was told that it should now fund it themselves. The Foundation continued however to administer the scheme until 1968.

A separate Trust was then established and the awards expanded to include growers. In 1978 the name of the Trust became the Nuffield Farming Scholarship Trust and it continues to this day.

In 1950 the Nuffield Foundation started a parallel scheme in Australia, New Zealand, Canada,

Kenya, the Rhodesias and Tanganyika. This continued until 1978 when the remaining countries i.e. Australia, Canada and New Zealand were required to fund their own schemes.

Zimbabwe rejoined in 1981. The participating countries now include the Republic of Ireland and France. With 600 scholars in the UK and another 400 worldwide there is a strong network of support for new Scholars.

In 2003 eighteen scholarships were awarded. These covered a wide range of subjects including; among others, the commercial development of GM crops; organic dairy products, egg production, the development of energy crops, world agricultural policies and their effects upon the UK and farm shop retailing. The sponsors represent diverse areas of interest including banks, the Worshipful Company of Farmers, agricultural societies, insurance companies, Marks & Spencer and charitable trusts.

The potential scholars are interviewed and if successful spend a week on an induction period including a visit to Brussels. They are ambassadors for UK agriculture and need thorough background information on the domestic scene.

The Company will be sponsoring a Scholar from the fruit industry in 2005 and it is hoped that this sponsorship will continue for many years to come.

NEWS FROM THE AWARDS COUNCIL

After a slow beginning, Past Master Tony Redsell has reported a late surge in entries for this year's Organic Awards. Judging will shortly take place and the winners are expected to be announced at the Mansion House on October 22nd.

No news is available for us at the time of going to press.

Past Master Laurence Olins, Chairman, has announced that he is available for re-election to serve one further year, i.e. to April 2006.

Nigel Bardsley has agreed to chair the adjudication panel to recommend to the Court a winner for the Ridley Medal Award in February 2005 at the next Livery banquet.

The introduction of participation in the Nuffield Scholarship Scheme (See above) has been agreed and the first of our scholarships will be granted in 2005. The Trustees of the Fruit Culture Trust have obtained Court approval to create a specific fund within the Trust, using existing funds, of £ 50,000 for these scholarships.

The Renter Warden is examining, with others, the merits of holding a Fruit Conference in 2006 as part of our 400 years celebrations with the objective of bringing together many notable people in research, marketing and growing.

A programme for assistance in promoting education and research has been implemented, including the City Schools' Orchards Planting Scheme (see our last issue), nine student awards at colleges, and a continuance of the East Malling Post Graduate student support.

The Council held their principal meeting of the year at Bradbourne House, East Malling on 9th June and will meet again during the National Fruit Show at Detling on October 21st.

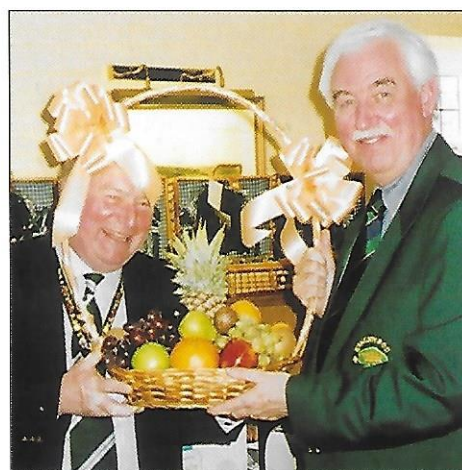


THE CLOUDS ROLL BACK FOR OUR GOLFERS!



After a few days of heavy rain, we were lucky with the weather at Kingswood Golf Club for the annual meeting of the Golfing Society on May 6th.

We were pleased to see some new faces as well as many of our established members and there was some high scoring, especially among the guests.



It was a pleasure for the Master to be able to present The Barton Cup to our President as winner of Division A. Division B was won by Clare Bousfield.

The President's Vase, presented to the Guest Winner, was won by Charles Hissey.

The runners up were Mark Culley (Division A) and David Hohnen (Division B on a count back).

The Runner up, Guest, was J McCurley-Smith (also on a count back).



Ivor Robins again conducted a Raffle (based on a £10 draw) and we raised £460.00 for the fruit distribution programme. In addition Ivor announced a £100 donation from the Horticultural Golfing Society (of which he is a member) towards the programme. We are all most grateful to Ivor and Sue for all their work in obtaining gifts for the Raffle and arranging it.

We meet again for our annual day on May 5th 2005.



ON PARADE AT ARMOURY HOUSE FOR THE SUMMER COURT

On 22nd July the Company held the Summer Court meeting and Dinner at Armoury House, City Road London, the home of The Honourable Artillery Company.

It was a happy return visit to these delightful surroundings after an absence of some years. It was a warm (even sticky) evening and there was a full house for dinner.

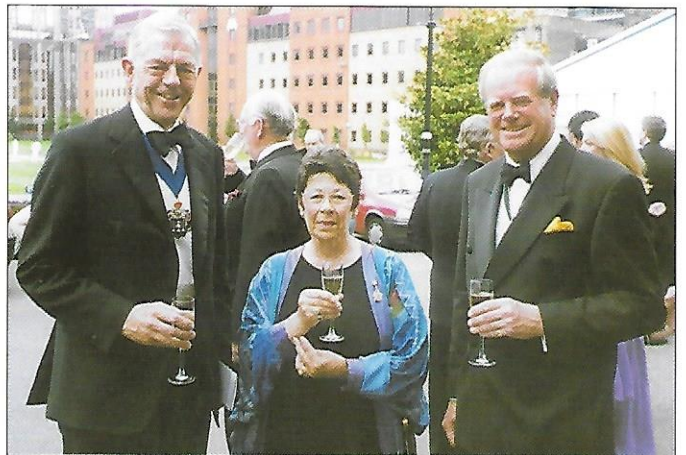
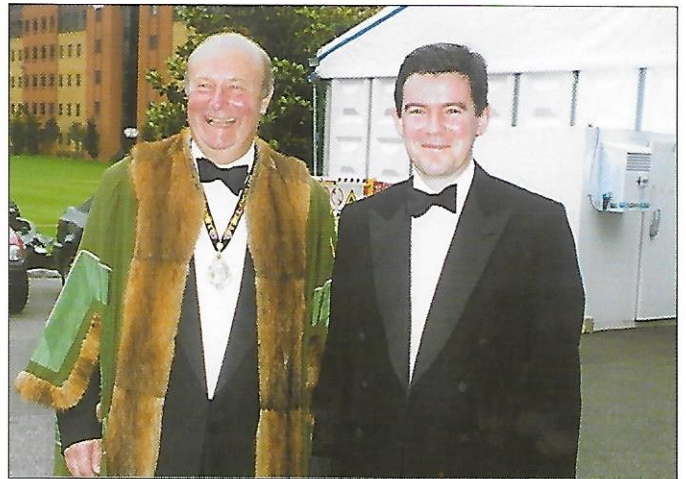
It was the first opportunity for many to see our newly acquired magnificent Silver Half Sieve basket, which was filled with cherries generously supplied from the Master's farm (See our story on page 8)

The guests of honour were Mr Hugh Robertson MP, Chairman The Parliamentary Fruit Group and Mr Jeremy Lansdell (Master The Founders Company) and his wife.

Mr Robertson replied to the Toast of The Guests, which The Master proposed. He gave details of the group, which had been formed in 1994, initially administered by English Apples and Pears and now administered by Marden/The National Fruit Show. There are two types of membership, firstly members of both Houses of Parliament and secondly individual growers, retailers, research bodies and educational establishments. The annual subscriptions are not great and any member of the Company who wishes to have more details should write to Mrs Carole Quinlan at The National Fruit Show.

During the evening delightful music was supplied by Matilda Tullberg on flute. Two properly dressed Pikemen were on duty, one being Matilda's father.

During the evening Past Master David Hope-Mason presented the Company's Silver Medal for the most meritorious exhibit of cherries at the Soft Fruit Show to The Master (See Page 1).



KIFTSGATE COURT A REAL DELIGHT



It was a great pleasure for us to again have our offer of a tree-planting and visit to the winner of the "Garden of the year" taken up by the owners of Kiftsgate Court, near Chipping Campden, Glos, John and Anne Chambers, and we received a warm welcome on 18th June.

The Roses at Kiftsgate are famous and what a show we saw! The beautiful house and exquisite gardens situated on a promontory (Glyde Hill) command a superb view across to the Malverns.

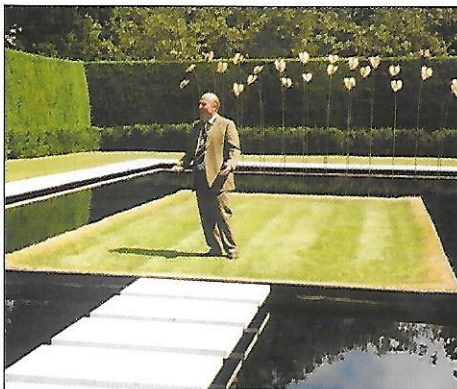
Anne's grandparents purchased the property in 1918 and made substantial alterations. Later, in 1954, they moved to the Front Lodge and Anne's parents took up residence in the house. Between 1974 and 1981 the house was unoccupied but then John and Anne moved in, made their home there and brought up their family.

One of the eye-catching features appreciated by the Fruiterers is a converted hard tennis court which is now an attractive water feature, designed by Simon Allison and surrounded by mature, clipped yew hedges.

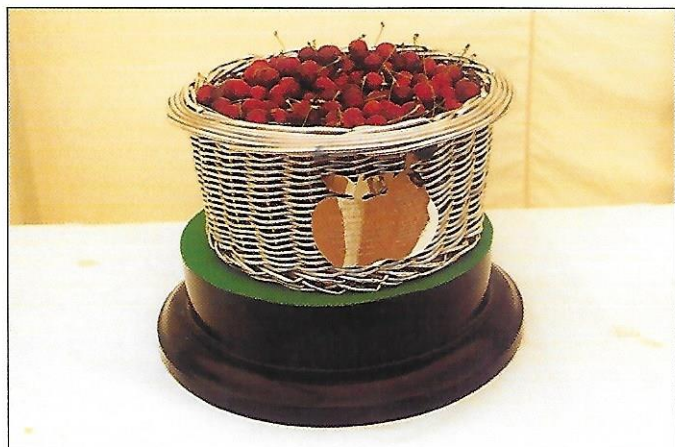
Elsewhere there is a fountain, on the side of which are depicted many livery companies, including our own.

"An orchard is a feature still lacking" Anne told us. "We have plans to correct this and we are delighted with the 'Burbank Tangerine Plum' which the Company has given us" The Master planted the tree close to the planned site of the orchard.

One's memories of a most delightful day were very much of the rose gardens which were quite outstanding and we are most grateful for having been able to visit a truly worthy winner!



A MAGNIFICENT SILVER SIEVE



We are extremely fortunate and appreciative that Liveryman "Pip" Arnold has presented the Company with a silver Half Sieve basket. The Master was delighted to be able to formally accept the gift on the occasion of his lunch to the Livery, held at his farm in Kent on June 30th.

"Pip" was present to hand over the sieve and to give a brief explanation of its history. It had originally served as a trophy for the "Porters Race" that was run in Spitalfields Market, during which the contenders competed over a set distance with a number of fruit baskets, or bushels, vertically stacked on their head. The exact rules seem to have been lost in antiquity but the trophy has not. It was rescued from the Spitalfields Market Club.

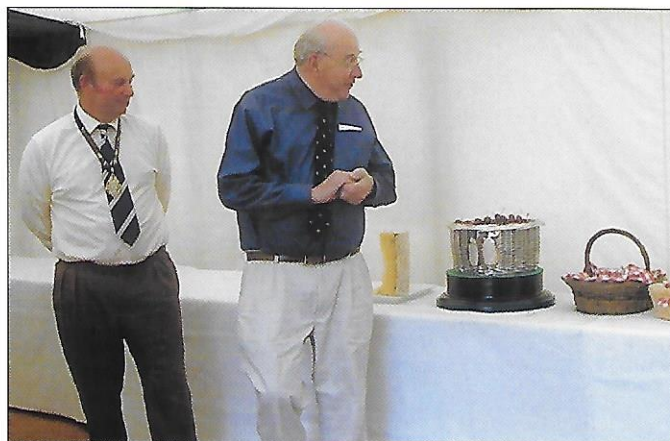
The inscription reads "Presented by Philip Arnold to

The Worshipful Company of Fruiterers in January 2004 to commemorate the Arnold Family's involvement in the UK fruit industry as both merchants and fruit growers over some 200 years".

The hallmarks show that it was made in 1933 in Birmingham with 160 oz of silver wire.

The Basket, well filled with The Master's magnificent cherries, was on display and in use at The Summer Court Dinner and will be on display, and perhaps in use, at future functions. There is no plan to re-instate the race. Even when empty, it is mighty heavy!

This is a most generous gift; "I believe that to be among the Company's treasures is an ideal and apt home for this piece of trade memorabilia" "Pip" told us.



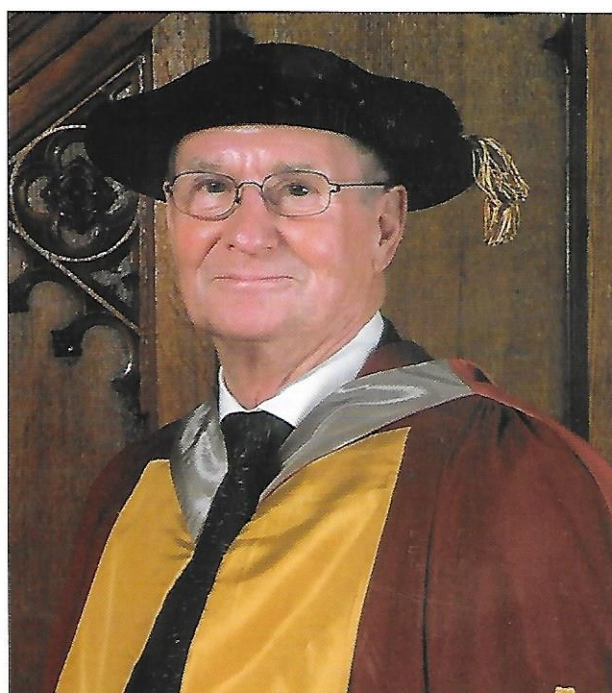
GET READY FOR A BUSY ST PAUL'S DAY

In January next year our celebrations of St Paul's Day will revert to the correct day, namely 25th January. The format is expected to follow the traditional pattern, but in the evening our new Master will have to participate in the Annual City Food lecture.

This is the only day suitable to our invited speaker who will be Mr John Sutherland, Chairman Cadbury Schweppes Plc.

The lecture is being arranged by the same participating companies as last year, so it is a date for your diary!

DEREK TULLETT CBE Hon DSc



Congratulations to Past Master Derek Tullett who received an Honorary Doctorate of Science from City University in May.

EDITORIAL

As we celebrate our fiftieth issue, it is a moment for reflection as to our aims and achievements, our successes and our failures!

The Company remains indebted to Liveryman Eric Williams for grasping the nettle and producing a Newsletter in basic format. This format has been developed into what we have today.

Credit is due in particular to David Hope-Mason and Lockwood Press Ltd, David Homewood, Hugh Kelsey who introduced us to our current printers, the many contributors and Masters who have provided copy, Laurence Olins, Dick Brighten and David Hohnen.

Thanks are also due to all the sponsors which we have had since we moved to colour and no Black and White edition has been necessary since the concept of sponsorship was introduced.

The changes in methods of production have been tremendous, in particular the introduction of digital cameras, E Mail transmission of copy and pictures and no doubt printing technology.

The policy of being Non Political and Non Technical (except when reproducing technical reports written by others) has been maintained. The objective of having no spelling errors remains!

The Company was a leader in the development of a newsletter, now adopted by many and is in strong competition with the excellent Livery News. The Company regards it as a major communication tool.

We move forward to the next half century wondering what stories we shall have! Our biggest regret is that cameras were not in vogue years ago as they are now. We would have so much more for our archives for future generations to read.

We still believe that more could be contributed by individual liverymen who often fail to tell us items of interest. We are still very much in need of sponsors for future issues.

SUCCESSION

Many Fruiterers are active participants in the fresh produce industry and hold positions of authority. Recently, John Olney, currently an honorary assistant, stepped down after many successful years as Chairman of New Spitalfields Market Tenants Association. He was succeeded by another Fruiterer, Chris Hutchinson, son of the late Arthur Hutchinson who had also enjoyed a considerable term of office in the same role. Spitalfields is one of the Corporation markets that are currently the focus of attention in the London Markets Review.

The Fresh Produce Consortium, which is the UK's



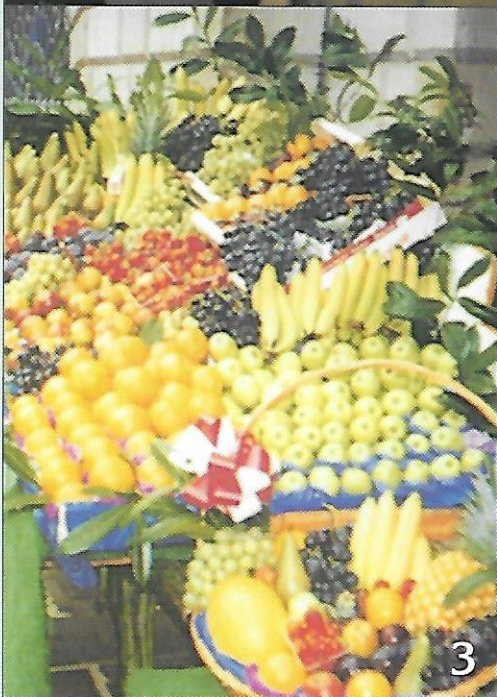
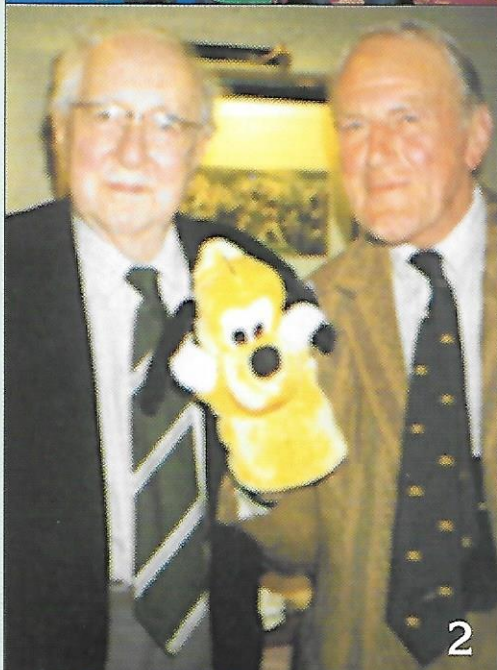
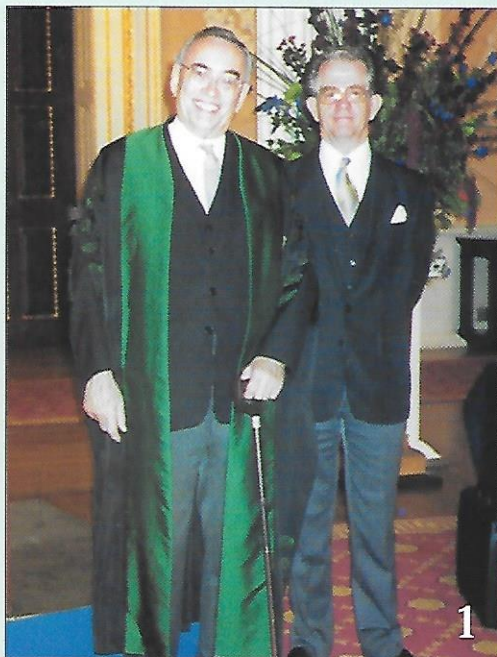
Alan McCutcheon (left) receives congratulations from Dick Brighten



Chris Hutchinson (right) talking to the Lord Mayor

trade association and based at Peterborough, saw a change of President at the AGM in May. Liveryman, Dick Brighten, who has served for four years, handed over the mantle to Liveryman Alan McCutcheon. Alan, who has spent his entire career in the business has considerable experience in every sector of the industry, and is an ideal successor.

A FEW MEMORIES FROM OUR FIFTY ISSUES



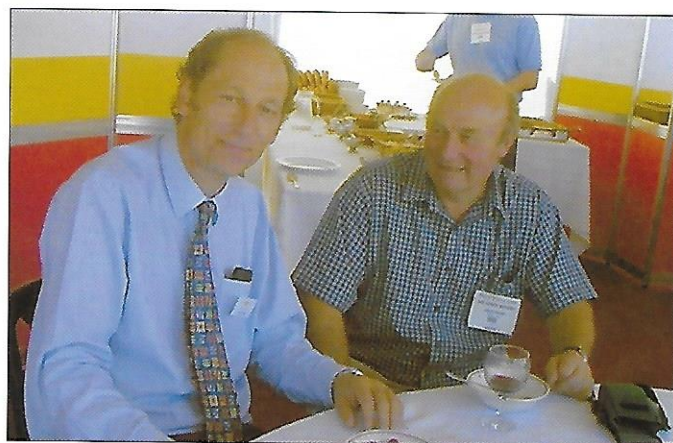


1. Paul Marsh retires as Beadle after 28 years of service and hands over to Bob Charlton.
2. Ralph Felton with Peter Morrish at the 1994 Golf Day.
3. The Fruit Porter's display outside The Mansion House 1994.
4. The Lord Mayor, Sir Brian Jenkins, with Alan Todd at Marden 1992.
5. Donald Cryan, Master, with his Wardens, British Embassy, Washington DC 1999.
6. The Seigneur and Mrs Beaumont with Michael Tanguy on Sark 1996.
7. Michael Wallis, Master, with the Poupart fruit stand, at dinner 1994.
8. HRH The Prince of Wales. Speaking at our Banquet 1989.
9. The Awards Council at their meeting 1990.
10. Alan Todd with the Pearlies 1992.
11. The Livery exhibition 1994.
12. David Hohnen with the Archbishop of Canterbury, tree planting, Lambeth Palace 1991.

STRAWBERRY FAYRE



Liveryman Douglas Kemp (right) in conversation with a visitor to Summerfruit stand.



Robin Barnett (Worldwide Fruit) left, with the Master.



Jim Flegg (right) in deep conversation on technical issues.



Past Master Laurence Olins (right) with guest at the Poupart stand.



FPC President Alan McCutcheon (centre) exchanges views with James Nicholls.



Honorary Assistant John Olney (left) and Liveryman Mike Culverwell (right) share a joke with Norman Thompson.

'Fruit Focus', a one-day showcase for the British soft and berry fruit producers, was held in the grounds of East Malling Research Station, Kent, on Wednesday 28th July. The event attracts growers and industry stakeholders from around the country and is always well attended. Several Fruiterers are actively involved in this sector of fruit production and were on parade

either representing their companies or as visitors, networking with fellow growers.

The event was organised, as always, by Highbury-Nexus. At the conclusion of the show a reception had been organised in honour of Peter Rogers, the retiring editor of *The Grower*, a weekly publication widely read by those involved with horticulture.

THE MASTER GOES TO MARKET



Early starts are, we are sure, nothing new for fruit farmers, but the recent visits by The Master to New Spitalfields and Western International may have required some "Clock Setting" by those who accompanied him.

On June 22nd The Master was delighted to accept the invitation from the Market Tenants Committee to visit Western International. The committee is headed by Liveryman George Bray.

The Master toured the market which is close to the M4 in West London and met a number of those actively at work. There are many different operators in the facility that gives it a true international flavour.

The market is currently in the final planning processes to enable a move to a new venue, very close to the existing site.

On 21st July, The Master joined the party, headed by

The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs on what has become an annual visit to New Spitalfields Market in East London. The Lord Mayor and his party were welcomed by Chris Hutchinson, (Liveryman) Chairman of the New Spitalfields Market Tenants Association.

The visit gives the administrators of this Corporation Market an opportunity to demonstrate that, in its new location, it has become a real "Tour de Force" in the evolving London supply scenario for fresh produce.

After the market tour, during which many interesting international personalities were introduced to the dignitaries and an incredible range of global produce was witnessed in the displays, the guests adjourned to the Conference Suite to enjoy a traditional "Spitalfields" breakfast.

It is a happy arrangement that our Master is invited to join the Lord Mayor's party for this visit.

PLANNING FOR APRIL IN PARIS!

The Upper Warden tells us "I am most grateful to the Master for allowing an article in this issue reporting on the preliminary visit which Jenny and myself made to Paris to set up arrangements for a Livery visit next April to Rungis Markets".

As in all years the Company needs to plan ahead, without of course anticipating the Court's wishes as to the election of Officers, which takes place in November.

The visit will be a principal "Industry/Trade related" event of 2005 and has been encouraged by Past Master Alan Todd and much assisted by The Fresh Produce Journal and Liveryman Dick Brighten, who was on the visit.

"We were much helped by Philippe Gautier (the Paris correspondent of FPJ) who set up a meeting with Michel Ganneau, The Secretary General of Rungis. We have made hotel arrangements and an outline programme which will conclude with a guided tour of the market and "Brunch" with the Chief Executive and some of his staff"

The Clerk will be issuing papers in due course and the dates set are 21st/22nd April. It is hoped that the events arranged within the visit will be of interest to many. Guests will be encouraged, as well as partners! Who could resist April in Paris!



Left to right: Jenny Bartlett, Peter Bartlett, David Hohnen and Philippe Gautier

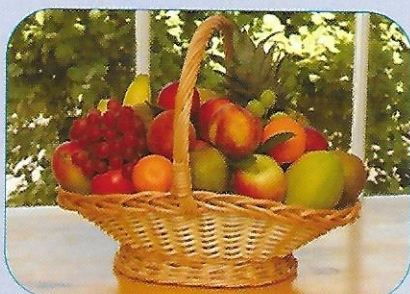


WALTER OLINS

As we go to press we are saddened by the news of the death of Walter "Wally" Olins. We send our sympathies to all members of his family.

Wally joined the livery three years ago, rather late in life, but became a very popular and supportive member. We shall miss him.

A full obituary will appear in our next issue.



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HONORARY LIVERYMAN HIS HONOUR JUDGE MICHAEL HYMAN



*Judge Michael Hyman (left)
with the then Master,
Judge Donald Cryan*

The Recorder of London, Honorary Liveryman His Honour Judge Michael Hyman died suddenly on the 8th of July 2004. By then he had been a Judge for over twenty years and could easily have retired, but he loved the work and he loved his role as Recorder of London, an office he was pleased to remind people was older than that of Lord Chief Justice. The Recorder was a universally respected

Judge and the City had much in him to be proud of.

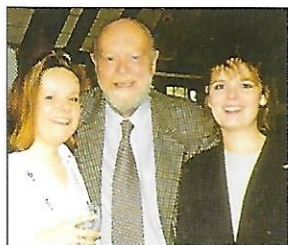
Michael Hyman was the son of a Chancery barrister, and Michael was to become a distinguished barrister. His book on advocacy is in its 4th edition. However, many people thought that it was as a Judge he came into his own. Learned, fair and wise he had all the best qualities which go to make an outstanding Judge. Michael was a great encourager of the young and a generation of barristers, many of them now Judges or leading Queen's Counsel, owe him much, and valued his friendship greatly.

But Michael was no arid and narrow lawyer. His interests were wide, particularly his love of books and passion for cricket, and his learning was a legend among his many friends. He became an Honorary Liveryman in 1999, the year his former junior colleague in chambers, Donald Cryan, was Master of the company, and in the years that followed he was a frequent attendee at company functions. He was last with us at the Audit Court Dinner in May.

Michael Hyman was an enthusiast about many things, but nothing got near his enthusiasm for his family. Diana and his three sons were everything to him and his greatest pleasure was in them. Our sympathy goes out to them.

A City Memorial Service will be at Bevis Marks on 3rd November.

COMMANDER MICHAEL STYLES



Michael Styles died in July. He had not been well for some time and he will be long remembered for his charm and impish sense of humour. The Upper Warden represented The Master at his funeral which was held at Chawton Parish Church, the village in which he had lived

for many years. His wife Auriol had predeceased him.

Auriol was a descendent of Lord Nelson, hence they named their daughters Bronte and Christin.

He had pursued a naval career and served as Naval Attache at the British Embassy in Ankara for 2½ years. Many will never have known that he broke his back in a flying accident.

Michael served as Clerk from 1989 until 1996 and became a Liveryman on his retirement.

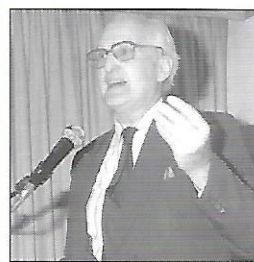
HONORARY FREEMAN A F POSNETTE ScD CBE FRS

Dr Posnette, universally known as Peter, died on July 17 aged 90. A Cambridge zoology graduate, Peter joined the Colonial Service in 1935, initially in the West Indies but soon after in the Gold Coast, now Ghana. There, serendipity dictated that he became a plant pathologist, working in the relatively new field of insect-transmissible virus diseases, founding the West African Cocoa Research Institute (WACRI) and playing the major role in saving the commercially vital cocoa crop from terminal decline. Returning to the UK in 1949, he joined East Malling Research Station and focused his expertise on hitherto unexplained debilitating or lethal fruit diseases, ultimately eradicating them to the huge benefit of the fruit industry in the UK and worldwide: hence his election as an Honorary Freeman of our Livery. As an unequalled expert of global repute, his election as a Fellow of the Royal Society (the ultimate accolade that science can bestow) in 1971 came as no surprise. He was Director of East Malling from 1972 until his retirement in 1979.

Like many of his kind, he was a naturalist at heart (with a particular interest in birds), unassuming, a delight to work with or for, superb company at the fireside, in the pub or the lab, on the cricket field or simply roaming wild places. His was an intellect of a magnitude that most of us encounter only once in a lifetime - if we are lucky.

Sadly, he died just before the news came from WACRI that their major laboratory in Ghana is to be named the Posnette Building in his honour.

HEW MATTHEW BROWN WATT, OBE, JP



Hew Watt was a special and all-too-rare human being. Few people will know that immediately before his first BBC broadcast in 1951 he went into All Souls Church, Langham Place, and prayed that his words would not hurt anybody.

Hew was born on 16th September 1915 and farmed the same 400 acres for more than fifty years. He inherited the tenancy of Heath Place Farm, Orsett, which his grandparents had first rented from the Whitmore family in 1889.

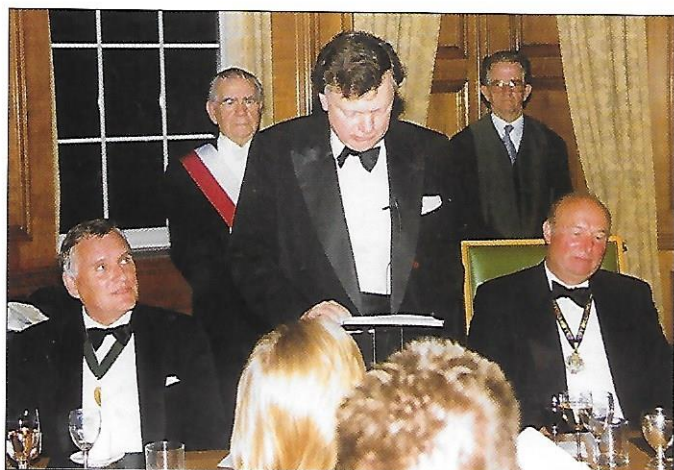
He was educated locally and at Writtle Institute of Agriculture before taking over the tenancy of the farm, having married Molly in 1937. During the war he was a member of the War Agricultural Advisory Committee. He always kept the farm in excellent condition and farmed efficiently, but it was mostly in his participation in outside organisations for which he will be long remembered.

He served as a Justice of the Peace for 34 years. He was a significant broadcaster and journalist; Chairman of the Orsett Agricultural Show; Governor of Writtle College; Chairman of the Apple and Pear Development Council; Vice President of the RABI and many more.

He was an outstanding Chairman of the Farmers Club and actively participated in the Club's matters for many years.

He died peacefully on 22nd April 2004 at the age of 88, his wife of 62 years having predeceased him.

FELLOWSHIP OF EXCELLENCE



Well over 100 Fruiterers and their guests attended the Audit Court Dinner on May 20th which was held at the Barber-Surgeons Hall.

The principal guests were Sir Stephen Lamport, KCVO, Director, The Royal Bank of Scotland and Sir Barry Jackson, MS FRCS FRCP, The Master of The Worshipful Company of Barbers.

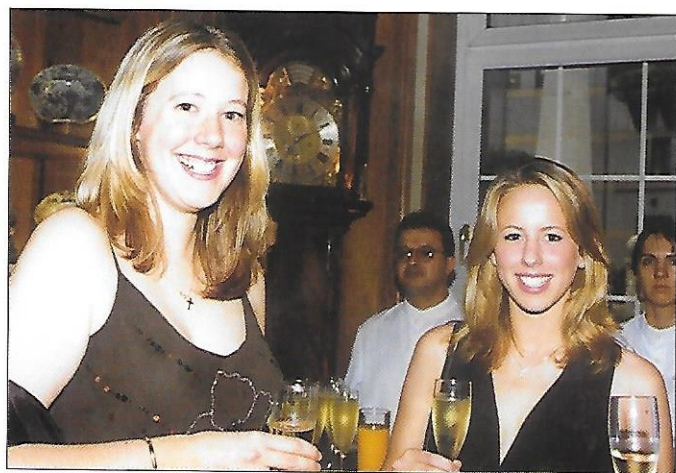
At the Audit Court meeting held earlier, the accounts of the Company's various funds were approved and adopted. The Master, Henry Bryant, in his post dinner speech declared that the accounts were "in good order" and thanked Liveryman Tim Bullivant for overseeing them.

The Master congratulated Past Master Derek Tullett CBE for having been awarded an honorary doctorate from the City University and Past Master Harry Arthur and his wife Helen who had celebrated their Platinum Wedding Anniversary. (See Page 18)

Sir Stephen Lamport, who responded on behalf of the guests, spoke of his ten years experience in serving the Royal Family as a private secretary and drew comparisons between the Monarchy and the Livery. He said that it was - *"for me at least - an honour to address an institution which, for more than 700 years, has stood for those traditions of excellence, compassion, charity, faith and mutual support which lay at the heart of the medieval guilds. These principles of good conduct and concern for excellence are too easily ignored or ridiculed in a modern world whose outlook and beliefs are so often dominated by the material, the short-term and the relative"*

He continued by saying *"the Monarchy is an institution which exists now in a world which so often mocks tradition, sneers at the past, and underrates the essential and unchanging values for which the Monarchy stands - service, duty, commitment, pride in excellence and achievement, a view of the world which celebrates and holds dear the lasting and the long-term rather than the whimsical ephemera of daily life. These qualities reflect also something of the traditions of Livery companies like your own. But the essence of what you as Fruiterers represent, and continue to represent and the virtues the company exemplifies of **fellowship and excellence**, loyalty and good faith are traditions which continue to have value beyond price"*

Honorary Assistant Eric Fraunfelter replied to the toast of The Company which Sir Stephen proposed and The Clerk gave the traditional closing Toast "Root and Branch".



WHAT ARE THE FRUITERERS DOING AT A FLOWER SHOW?

Well it's not just a flower show, many exhibitors have demonstrated this fact. For two years we have taken a stand at The City of London 'Flower Show' having put on a fairly modest display, assisted by Brogdale, who supplied samples of reasonably obscure English dessert varieties of apples, that attracted considerable attention from the thousands of visitors.

The first C o L Flower Show was held in 1979 at the Royal Exchange. This year will therefore witness the 25th, and in our third year of participation the Company plans a far more ambitious project, spearheaded by The Renter Warden, Will Sibley, and his enthusiastic assistants.

It is an amazing fact that over a quarter-of-a-century an incredible 22,000 exhibits have been displayed. Admission this year will be free and the venue will be the Guildhall, Gresham Street, over two days in September, Monday 6th (12 noon to 7.00pm) and Tuesday 7th (10am to 4.30pm).

And so to answer the question, why are we going to be there? Quite simply to support the City and Mayoralty, promote the Company, its activities and products within the heart of the square mile's environs.

Any Fruiterer or Apprentice who would like to assist in manning the stand, (no special skills required), should contact the Renter Warden, Tel: 01702 479 921 or Liveryman Dick Brighten, Tel: 07802 263 193.

We look forward to hearing from you.



GOLD, DIAMOND AND PLATINUM

What a happy period this has been in that we can record the special wedding anniversaries of three Past Masters!

Sir Rowland Whitehead and his wife Isa celebrated 50 years, Michael and Diana Barton celebrated 60 years and, to top the list, Harry and Helen Arthur notched up a magnificent 70 years!

All are in good health as our pictures show. We wish them all many more years of happiness.



Michael and Diana



Rowland and Isa



Harry and Helen

The Editors are most grateful to the following Livermen who have acted as mini-sponsors for this issue.
Dick Brighten, Graham Collier, Peter Cooper, Peter Gilding, Andrew Kent, Gerry McDevitt, David Matthews, George Smith, Cheryl Smith, Michael Sykes, Andy McDonald, Tony Redsell, Derek Tullett and Michael Velasco.

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of their 50th Newsletter

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*Congratulations from Peter Gilding & Co Ltd
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CONGRATULATE

**The Worshipful Company of Fruiterers
on this, the 50th edition
of their excellent newsletter**

NEW FREEMEN

By Redemption

On May 20th John L Klinck
 Andrew Peter Macdonald
 Philip Neil West

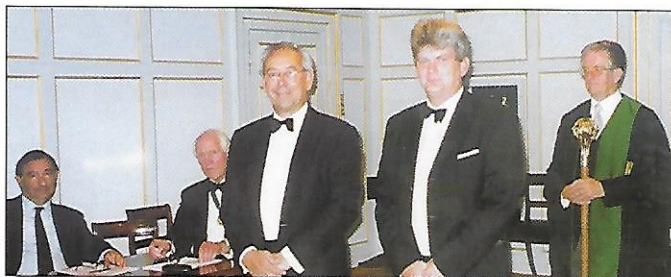
On July 22nd Michael Jose Antonio Velasco
 Richard David Francis



NEW LIVERYMEN

On May 20th David John Lane Anderson
 James Ditchburn
 Mark Gerard Hoban MP
 Professor John Frederick Price

On July 22nd John Oatley



APPRENTICE

At the Audit Court meeting the indentures of Ms Charlotte Dyson Brooker were completed and sealed. Her Apprentice Master is Liveryman Her Honour Judge Anwyl QC.



HONORARY ASSISTANTS DINNER



This annual event was held at the Innholders' Hall on April 20th when The Master entertained the Immediate Past Master.

Those currently serving as Honorary

Assistants were present, together with those nominated for the ensuing year.

The period of service is two years and enables Liverymen to gain experience of Court procedures and a greater insight into the Company's affairs.

The Past Masters serving on the Master's Committee were also present.

The latter part of the evening is intended to provide an informal arena for the airing of views and discussions.

At the Audit Court meeting held in May, Sandys Dawes, Stephen Bodger and Ian Mitchell were elected to serve for two years. All three are currently serving either on the Awards Council or on the Finance Sub-Committee.

All those who seek nomination in the future should ensure that they serve on one of the sub-committees or the Council. This is a recommended "first step".

OBITUARIES

We are sorry to give notice that the following have died since our last issue:

His Honour Judge Michael Hyam (Honorary Liveryman)
Hew Watt

Michael Tom Harold Styles (a former Clerk of the Company)
Dr Adrian Frank Posnette MA PhD DSc FRS VMH CBE
(Honorary Freeman)

Separate testimonials appear elsewhere in this issue. We send our sympathies to the families of the deceased.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Editors would like to thank those Liverymen who we were willing to be joint sponsors of this, our 50th, issue. They would also like to thank The Master, Heather Gare, Jenny Bartlett, Donald Cryan, Tony Harris, Edmund Doubleday, Jim Flegg, Tony Redsell, Derek Tullett, Ian Graham-Bryce, Trudi Watt and The Clerk for their contributions to this issue.

BEST WISHES

We send best wishes to Air Chief Marshal Sir Lewis Hodges KCB CBE DSO DFC and to Past Master Bobby Manners who have been in hospital.

We also send good wishes to Apprentice Max Bryant on his forthcoming marriage and to Past Master Michael Barton who will be 90 in October.

CONGRATULATIONS

We send congratulations and good wishes to Tom and Julie Hilliard on their marriage on July 23.

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