

The Fruiterers' Company NEWSLETTER

Number 28

April 1997



THE MASTER LAUNCHES EDUCATIONAL CO PARTNERSHIP

The Master, Derek Tullett, who received the CBE in the New Year's Honours, and who took office on January 24th 1997, presided at the Annual Livery Banquet held at the Mansion House on 13 February. The Egyptian Hall was packed to capacity and the evening was particularly memorable.

In his speech welcoming the Lord Mayor's Representative, Alderman Sir Christopher Collett GBE MA D.Sc, who was accompanied by Lady Collett, The Master urged appropriate education to allow the industry to flourish. "Basic and applied research is needed to underpin the industry and I am proposing individual educational partnerships between Companies in the corporate sector and the Worshipful Company of Fruiterers." He outlined a four point programme, which is currently being formulated in detail and will shortly be published and promoted.

In welcoming Sir Christopher, the Master expressed the Company's special delight in his attendance, as he had been unable to attend our Banquet in the year of his Mayoralty. In his year, as in 1997, the Lord Mayor had been required to be elsewhere at very short notice. The level of commitments is increasing, but this did not deflect completely from our sense of disappointment that for the second year running the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs were absent.

There was an array of guests with an emphasis on Banking, which is the Master's profession. Mr R A Arnold, Chairman of the Managing Board of Rabobank International replied to the toast of "The Guests" proposed by Past Master Donald Mack OBE who recalled the event in the year of his Mastership (1974) when economic conditions prevented the Lord Mayor from Dining Out and the Banquet turned into a private Dinner Party in the Private Rooms at the Mansion House.

Mr Arnold offered the Company the participation of a nominated delegate to their Scholarship programme. The bank is the leading banker to the European Horticultural Industry. Other guests included The Ambassador of the Netherlands, The Finance Minister, Embassy of Japan, The Dean of St Pauls, Dr Peter Harper and Dr C A Barnett (Headmaster of Whitgift School which the Master had attended). Other Livery Companies were well

The Hon. Chaplain leads the Master and Lady Collett to dinner with Sir Christopher and other principal guest.



represented; The Masters of the Farmers, Gardeners and Masons Companies were present and Liveryman Ray Whittaker (currently Master Gunmaker) exercised his right of attendance.

Two of our "Musketeers" were on parade. It was good to see Admiral Sir David Williams in good health again.

Anita Tullett invited a small party of ladies to join the Banquet. Separate dining is not possible in the Mansion House. The Master's mother confessed to be having a wonderful evening and this was echoed by all those present as they left the Hall.



The Renter Warden and his wife, escorted by the Learned Clerk on their way to dinner.

Dates for your Diary

1997

April 28	Tree Planting at Aethelhampton House, Dorset
May 1	Fruiterers Golf Day Kingswood Golf Club
May 22	Audit Court Dinner- Barber-Surgeons Hall
June 13	Livery visit to Chateau Mouton, Bordeaux
June 24	Midsummer Day Elections, Guildhall

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A HAPPY ST PAUL'S DAY

There was a full house at St Mary Abchurch on 24 January for the Annual Livery Service. The Venerable Malcolm Lesiter, Archdeacon of Bedford, preached the Sermon and we were delighted to welcome him. The choir was, as has become traditional at this service, outstanding. At the commencement they sang the Gloria from Missa Brevis in D (Mozart), and for the anthem they selected "I waited patiently for the Lord" (Mendelssohn). The singers were under the direction of Peter Barley and we are hoping to have an article telling the Livery a little about them in a future issue.

The Master clearly enjoying presidings at lunch



RODGER WORRAKER WINS THE MATTHEW MACK AWARD

The triennial award made by the Company on the recommendation of the Trustees and the Awards Council for outstanding work and achievement related to training within the Fruit Industry was presented by the Master (Derek Tullett CBE) at the Mansion House on February 13th.

The Master, making the award, cited Rodger's extensive knowledge of the industry and the way in which he has passed on that knowledge to many students who have attended his highly regarded tutorials at Hadlow College and, subsequently, to many growers during his time at the Checkers Group where he was known for his training courses on pruning, harvesting and orchard planning.



Our photo shows Rodger Worraker receiving his award from the Master.

Nominations were open to the Livery and trade organisations. These were considered by the adjudication committee on which Honorary Assistant Jonathan

Choat is now serving and a final choice was made.

Rodger was made an Honorary Freeman of the Company in 1991 and won the Fruit Culture Award in 1993 in recognition of his leading role in the top fruit industry.

All liverymen congratulate him on this further award.

Following the service many of the congregation adjourned to Innholders Hall where the Master gave a lunch to the Court at which the Priest in Charge (The Rev Oswald Clarke) and the Archdeacon were among the guests.

This autumn we hope to attend the Harvest Festival Service at St Mary Abchurch to further increase our connection with the church, an association to which Oswald warmly referred in his welcoming remarks.

During the luncheon proceedings The Master presented the Winning Medals for the Best Exhibit of Culinary Apples and Dessert Apples at the 1996 Marden Fruit Show to Mr J Scott, and also presented a Rose Bowl to John and Rosa Dunham (See story on page three).



The Master and his wife Elizabeth



Presentations of medals and Diplomas to J Scott

The Toast of the Master was proposed by Past Master Robert Manners, recording another year of progress for the Company and expressing delight at the Master's recovery to full health after his recent spell in hospital.

We were delighted to see Gunel Hope-Mason, Eileen Sheldon and Toni Sice, all widows of former Masters of the Company.

At the Court Meeting held later, Michael Tanguy retired as Master and was presented with the Past Master's Jewel, which was of particular interest as it was a jewel bequeathed to the Company and restored to its original condition.

Our picture shows the Archdeacon and the Rev Oswald Clarke with the Master and his wife and Elizabeth Abbott



WRM COOLCHAIN

The natural choice for fresh produce logistics

WRM Coolchain is an exciting new force in service-orientated supply chain management and offers a fully comprehensive range of logistics services to the fresh produce marketplace. Good distribution systems and logistics operations are becoming increasingly important as food hygiene, environmental as well as commercial considerations which demand ever faster delivery schedules, are putting pressures on the fresh fruit supply chain.

Part of WRM Coolchain's success is a clear focus on the fresh produce sector to provide its customers with a high level of service at an affordable price. It is now the largest independent logistics provider operating over 160 vehicles and 18,500sqm of cool/cold storage from four depots nationwide.

The temperature controlled facility at Teynham in Kent provides local growers, multiples and importers with a modern pick and pack facility and consolidation operation. This enables produce to be moved efficiently and effectively through the supply chain quickly arriving in

excellent condition at the point of sale. From its operation at Paddock Wood in Kent, WRM Coolchain has the capability to provide an efficient national transport operation delivering into all the major regional distribution centres covering all the key retailers on a regular basis.

Demonstrating its commitment to the future growth and development of its fresh fruit logistics business, WRM Coolchain has recently invested in 12 state-of-the-art dual compartment temperature controlled trailers. Each is fitted with load restraint systems specially designed to protect the fruit during transit. New tractive units with the latest engines, which help reduce pollution, have also been added to the fleet.

For further information of how your business can benefit from WRM Coolchain's hands-on, customer service focused, flexible logistics operation, please contact Roy Hook at WRM Coolchain Ltd, Henley Road, Paddock Wood, Kent TN12 6DN or telephone 01892 832155, fax 01892 837461.

HAZELNUTS

The Genus *Corylus* or Hazel is relatively small and comprises about 15 species. Most hazels, including Britain's only wild species *Corylus Avellana*, are shrubs or small trees. However these are far exceeded by the large quantity of named cultivars which have been bred for the quality of their nuts. With world production in the region of 1/2 million tonnes, they are used in confectionery, for oil or eating as whole nuts. Cultivation and selection of hazels for nuts began more than 2000 years ago. Early records show that English Medieval gardens contained the "filbert", a pointed thin shelled type with a distinctive long husk.

Victorian times saw much experimentation in plant breeding and the Kentish cob, which produces a large exceptionally fine flavoured nut, was introduced in the early part of the last century and is still the most extensively grown in Britain.

Hazels will grow on most soils that are not waterlogged. They are largely self sterile, the pollen from a given variety cannot pollinate female flowers of the same variety. Wild hazels in nearby woods or hedges can be pollinators, but in their absence two compatible varieties such as Kentish Cob and Gunslebert or Butler and Ennis could be used. Hazels do not come true from seed. Plants should be grown either from layers/stool beds or grafted. Commercially, trees are spaced 4 1/2 x 4 metres (14' x 12') apart, but closer spacings are possible in garden situations. Young trees should be grown on a single stem, not the traditional multi stemmed, and pruned at about 2 metres high to a goblet shape for ease of picking or shaking. In the south of England picking can begin late August while the husks are green. Nuts with brown husks picked in late September keep best.

At the turn of the century some 7000 acres were grown in Kent which by 1950 had reduced to about 200 acres. In 1990 the Kentish Cobnut Association was formed to promote the growing and marketing of cobnuts; both demand and the acreage have been steadily increasing.

John Cannon
Chairman
Kentish Cobnut Association.



This magnificent Loving Cup (Item no23 on our schedule of Plate & Regalia) c1821 with its Cup & Cover is Birmingham Silver Gilt and exquisitely decorated with vines. The Victorian Plinth c1885 came later to the collection - the generosity of their donors is mysteriously shrouded, however the affluence of our Livery during this period is evidenced by our recorded ownership of Irish Estates.

MEET JOHN AND RO DUNHAM

Many Liverymen have come to know of John and Ro through the newsletter and many through the Tree Planting Programmes, but many probably wonder who they are and how it has all come about.

The Editor went to see them in their charming flat in Epsom and received a warm welcome.

Ro suffered a health set-back in January but is making a good recovery

John was born on 22 April 1923 and was married on 28 March 1945. It was on this day that the last "All Clear" siren was sounded in London, clearly a good omen for a long and happy marriage! After attending St Georges College, Southgate, he went to the Hornsey College of Art. To this day his main outside interests are Art, History and Philosophy as well as the Company. He has served on the Livery and Communications Sub Committee for some years.

He then took articles with a Lloyds Insurance Broker and in 1962 he set up his own Broking firm in the old Fruit and Wool Exchange in Spitalfields. This provided the link with members of the Company which climaxed with his admission to the Freedom and Livery.

He was proposed for the Freedom by Ronald Starns and seconded by the late "Bunny Hammond." He served as Honorary Assistant 1988-90 and it was during this period that he was asked by the then Master (David Hope-Mason) to take on the arrangements for a series of tree plantings to be made to record the 800th year of the Mayoralty. The concept was to increase the knowledge of the City and the Livery Companies by planting trees in places of Public Interest and Gardens. The first was at Ightham Mote in Kent. After the year was over, the popularity and interest of the programme was such that it was agreed to continue it and the total number of plantings is now nearing 50.

Ro, who also spent her business career in "The Square Mile", told us that the programmes "have opened up a whole new interest for us." The programmes give all members who attend an unique opportunity to visit new places and meet interesting people. On occasions there are restrictions on numbers.

"It is an opportunity to build friendships within the Livery", John added. "The success of all our plantings, including the 'Garden of the Year' Award with which we are now firmly linked, would have been much less without the help, guidance and support which we have received from Past Master Alan Todd. He has selected, organised and often delivered the trees. I am most grateful to him."

John and Ro received a commemorative Rose Bowl from the Company on St Paul's Day to acknowledge their work for the Company. They are moving forward to 1997 with their customary vigour and enthusiasm. Long may they continue!

John and Ro receive their Rose Bowl from the Master at Innholders Hall.





Our group photograph shows the Master and Wardens and their ladies with our principal guests at the Annual Banquet, held at the Mansion House (see story on page 1).

Marden Show Medal Winners 1996

The winners of the Company's Silver Medals at the 1996 Marden Fruit Show were as under:

Best Exhibit of Dessert Apples	J Scott
Best Exhibit of Culinary Apples	J Scott
Best Exhibit of Pears	Howard Chapman Ltd

United Guilds Service 1997

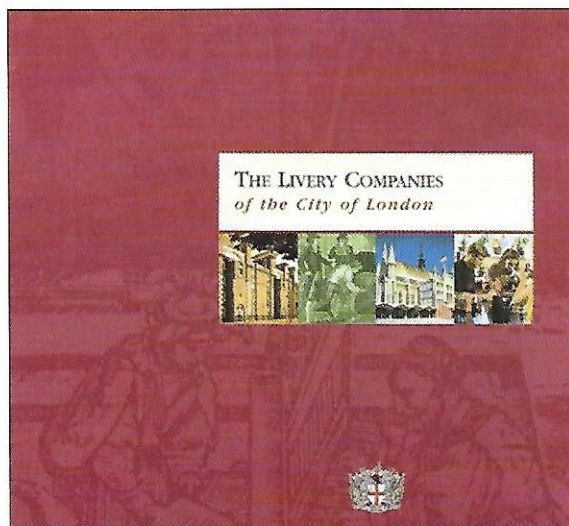
On Friday 14 March, traditionally two Fridays before Good Friday, the Annual United Service of the Guilds of the City of London was held in St Paul's Cathedral. The Master and his wife joined other Fruiterers for the service and at the Stationers' Hall for lunch afterwards.

The Very Reverend John Moses, Dean of St Paul's, (who had been among our guests at the Banquet on February 13, see page one,) gave the sermon and took as his text the Anthem sung earlier What does it profit you, O Mortal, to strive for wordly things and neglect the Heavenly.

This service is well worth attending at least once every few years. Discussions are taking place internally as to enabling younger Liverymen the chance to participate more.

The Livery Companies of The City of London

John Dunham and Ian Rainford, members of the Livery and Communications sub Committee, attended the Presentation by the Livery Committee of their new booklet at the Guildhall on 27th March, 1997. Copies are available from the Public Relations Department. Tel: 0171 332 1453.



Charitable Donations 1996

The Master has authorised the following donations on behalf of all Liverymen from the Charitable Trust for the year 1996.

Children's Support Group - Sark
Le Bourg Hospice - Guernsey
Grow Limited - a trust for the mentally retarded
St John Ambulance
The Red Cross
St Paul's Day Poppy Appeal
Merlin - nurses medical aid
BAFF - child fostering
The Shotokan Karate Association of Great Britain -
Help a Child Appeal
St Mary Abchurch

Garden of the Year 1996

The Historic Houses Association and Christie's, Joint sponsors of the Award, have announced that the 1996 winner is Sudeley Castle in Gloucestershire.

The Master and our Clerk have accepted invitations to attend the prizegiving on May 7th.

Lady Ashcombe, the present owner, has received our approach to enquire whether she would like to receive a gift of trees to be formally planted.

If she does, arrangements may be possible for a Livery visit to the Castle,

The award, now in its 13th year, recognises the achievement of Lady Ashcombe, who took over the estate of 1,500 acres in 1972, in creating thematic gardens that tell Sudeley's story.

Congratulations!

To Andrew and Helen Potter on their marriage on 4 April 1997.

To Air Chief Marshall Sir Jock Kennedy GCB AFC DL who has been appointed Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Rutland.

New Freeman of the Company

The following new Freemen were admitted to the Company on January 24th.

Dr Alwyn Richard Thompson
Professor David Robert Hughes
Martin Dunnnett
Kevin James David Ellis

Acknowledgments

The Editor would like to thank Hugh Kelsey, John Dunham, and the Clerk for their assistance in providing copy and photographs for this issue.